

Inside It takes Weeks to get El Cerrito on paper [A3]

Arts Music of French Louisiana guar-an-tees a good time [C3]

Theater revival edges to reality

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER
CERRITO — The city's redevelopment agency could soon announce which company will run the Cerrito Theater and whether the city will contribute \$2 million to revive the movie house.

day for who could operate the theater, how much renovations would cost and how much money could be raised to bring the vacant building back to a usable state.

The redevelopment agency agreed to negotiate with the movie company Speakeasy Theaters to run the Cerrito.

Speakeasy, which operates the Parkway Theater in Oakland, has proposed paying the city \$10,000

a month to operate a two-level, two-screen theater and restaurant with tables and couches. Community events also could be held there.

A final decision on whether to sign a lease agreement with Speakeasy could be made within three weeks by the redevelopment agency, said redevelopment manager Lori Trevino. The redevelopment agency also could be in a position to spend \$2 million

to renovate the theater and move forward with an estimated \$500,000 fund-raising effort.

"We will try to come up with other funding sources but will have to ask them how much they want to commit," Trevino said.

The agency has about \$1.8 million and could pay cash for the theater renovations, though that would leave little money for

See CERRITO, Page A8

PIT BULL DOGS' FIND SOME FRIENDS



Bay Area Doglovers Responsible About Pitbulls) officer Leslie Nuccio gets acquainted with Bosco during a training class at Berkeley Animal Shelter on Feb. 1.

Group helps with pit bull challenges

By Martin Snapp
STAFF WRITER
BOSCO the dog was having a bad day. He was an 80-pound, tan-and-white pit bull belonging to Patti of Richmond. They were at a weekly pit bull etiquette class at the Berkeley Animal Shelter last Friday, and Bosco was finding it hard to concentrate.

meet and so many new hands to lick. And Bosco wasn't satisfied until he'd licked every one.

"I swear, this is the sweetest dog in the world," Paul said. "He has never attacked anybody or anything. Never. The main danger is that he wags his tail so hard when he sees you, it could break your arm if you're not careful."

Bosco's story is all too typical: He was rescued from the Pinole

Animal Shelter less than two hours before he was due to be put down. Many shelters routinely euthanize pit bulls because the name "pit bull" scares off potential adopters. The image problem is so bad, the San Francisco SPCA once called its pit bulls "St. Francis terriers" in an attempt to increase their adoptability.

In the East Bay, a pit bull's best friend is Bad Rap, a loose-

knit group of dog lovers who rescue pit bulls from shelters and find them new homes. It was they who saved Bosco.

Not for everyone

"Pit bulls aren't for everyone," says Donna Reynolds of Oakland, one of Bad Rap's founders. "They're very strong-willed dogs,

See PIT BULLS, Page A8



ALBANY RESIDENT John Sanchez was treated for leukemia in December, and now he and his mom, Becca Sanchez, are tackling the next step — finding a bone marrow donor.

Family urgently searching for marrow donors

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — Potential bone marrow donors, particularly those of Hispanic and Irish descent, are being sought for a bone marrow drive taking place Feb. 15.

The drive is being held in part to help 20-year-old John Sanchez, an Albany resident afflicted by leukemia and in need of a bone marrow donation so he can be treated if, as expected, the disease comes back.

Sanchez was stricken by leukemia, a disease that produces cancerous white blood cells that affect the immune system, in the

fall of 2001 but was in remission for several months until it reappeared last September.

The chemotherapy treatments destroy his bone marrow and he cannot effectively be treated again unless someone is lined up as a donor. "If I don't find a bone marrow donor, I'm pretty much lost," Sanchez said.

Sanchez was stricken by leukemia in the fall of 2001 but was in remission for several months last year until the blood cancer reappeared last September. He was again treated with chemotherapy.

See DONORS, Page A8

Robbers caught more frequently in Albany

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — Officer Chris Willis was out for a jog shortly after 8 a.m. near University Village on Tuesday, Jan. 28, when police began pursuing a man they believed had just robbed a woman at knifepoint in front of a Citibank on Solano Avenue.

In a final attempt to escape, the suspect abandoned his car among the buildings and bushes at University Village and started running. But he was out of luck.

Willis, a two-time gold-medal winner in police Olympics, saw the man, heard the sirens, realized a pursuit was in progress and nabbed the suspect himself.

Police recovered the woman's property, arrested the San Pablo man and got him to confess, Albany Police Lt. Bill Palmieri said.

It was not an unusual occurrence; Albany police catch many more than the national average proportion of robbery suspects.

See ROBBERIES, Page A8

From parent-activist to school board president

Miriam Walden's experience as a community organizer will be tested as she runs for school board member in certain financial times

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER
ALBANY — It was more than 10 years ago that Miriam Walden received a letter saying her son's kindergarten teacher was working without a contract. She was the school board member who gave teachers a raise through the state was giving money to school districts.

pelled Walden, 36, into her current position as president of the Albany school board.

Barnes said Walden was an enthusiastic leader when the teachers were trying to get a pay raise and that her experience working with nonprofit groups will pay off on the school board. Barnes was elected to the school board on a teacher-backed slate that included him and Walden.

"I think Miriam brings a real different set of experiences to the board," Barnes said. "She has been a community organizer and has worked with various communities over the years."

As board member, Walden's main goals are fostering communication between parents, teachers, administrators and students and having plans in place that will keep the district humming even if there are problems.

But it's not going to be easy. While the district has a reputation for giving students a quality education, it is also at the mercy of the state, especially now that California is looking again to slash school funding to make up for a budget deficit.

"Albany provides a very good education, mostly because we have great teachers and wonderful parents and children and we have the ability to work together despite everything," Walden said. "It's not because we have enough money."

The best thing the district can do, she said, is have better communication as well as a long-term plan to protect the quality of the school district.

For example, an early retirement program can be implemented so experienced teachers don't retire all at once and new

teachers — who are needed to develop into future experienced teachers — are not given the boot when there are budget problems.

Walden said her major attributes on the school board are mediating disputes and seeing different sides of issues between parties.

That characteristic, she said, came about when she was 5 years old and traveled to what is now known as Republic of Congo for two years with her parents, who were doing work for the Peace Corps.

Her father, a machinist, was building agricultural equipment and her mother, a homemaker, was teaching English.

There, Walden learned different languages — the native language of the village, the trade language used between villages, and French — and would some-



NEW ALBANY school board President Miriam Walden has some challenges ahead.

times translate for the adults who learned more slowly. It's a characteristic Walden carried into her adult life.

"Maybe I can help translate

between different perspectives and different points of view. Sometimes it's a good thing and

See WALDEN, Page A8

INSIDE

KNIGHT RIDDER

Theater

■ "Suddenly Last Summer" is volatile Williams. Page C3

Schools column

■ "Tell your truth" is the lesson of a class on diversity. Page A5



Martin Snapp

■ Local Republican leader wants to take back the party. Page A3

Police Reports	A2
CommunityFolk	A3
Opinion	A4
Sports	C1
Arts	C3
Crossword	C6

Artist puts Cerrito paper

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

RICHMOND — Even residents who may not know Debbie Weeks, a graphic artist with roots in El Cerrito, have likely seen her work.

There's a shaggy dog looking playfully at ease breathing with a paintbrush to the opening of the city's center. There's the kids around a fire truck, kids playing at a new play

of the scenes are works painted for the city's Park recreation brochures. Think locally people know because it does go to the city's doorstep," Weeks

has donated her artwork to many civic organizations including the West Contra Unified School District, the Measure A campaign for the Measure A tax in 2000 and environmental groups.

At her Richmond home, wearing jeans and a black shirt, Weeks appears younger than her 48 years. She has shoulder-length blond hair and occasionally wears white reading glasses decorated with specks of

black ink that sits near her computer are more than a recreation brochures, from El Cerrito and Albany, for which she did the artwork. Ideas for many of the covers come from events taking place in the city.

Weeks include the most recent Cerrito fall and winter 2002 brochure, in which she painted a dog underwater. The idea was that dogs and their owners would frolic in the El Cerrito pool before it closed.

Weeks had an illustration of a dog and a dog playing in Huk, where a brick wall is built. At the time, the city was selling money by selling perked bricks.

Weeks let her creativity loose



STEVE MASLANKA/STAFF

DEBBIE WEEKS is an artist/designer who designs the El Cerrito Recreation brochures. She is pictured in her Richmond home in front of one of her favorite paintings.

for the Albany 2000 spring/summer brochure in which the Mona Lisa is transformed into a sports coach. The famous portrait was outfitted with a whistle, visor and clipboard.

"Really, I think people in small communities want to laugh and want to connect to their communities and can do that through humor or personal events," she said.

Weeks has been a freelance artist since she was in high school, and her passion for the work has never diminished.

She was born and raised in El Cerrito. Her mother was an artist, her father a firefighter.

"I was that kid who had a bump on their finger from coloring all the time. I just really, really loved it," she said.

Her first professional painting was one she did for a school dean, when Weeks was in high school. She was asked to paint the dean's daughter.

She was excited to get a professional job at such a young age. Today, with a smile, she acknowledges the dean was probably asking her to do it as a way to motivate her; she had less than a stellar grade-point average.

After high school, she attended Contra Costa College for a semester, but didn't like it.

"That was the young Debbie; I didn't have discipline for that," Weeks said.

Instead, she worked at Longs Drugs in El Cerrito for a couple of years and did free-lance art work. At 22, she got married, moved to Pinole and took a job touching up negatives at a photography studio.

In 1980, at 26, she got a steady free-lancing job at Ortho, the company that used to sell weed and bug poison for home gardens, before it was bought out. She did that for 12 years, and did hundreds of drawings of weeds, bugs and more, for the boxes of the product and instruction booklets.

With a takeover of Ortho in 1992, Weeks was never called back for her design work and was effectively laid off.

Up to then she had been doing much of her work by hand and took advantage of her break to take classes to learn how to use computers to do her art.

At this time, she began taking part-time jobs, among them as a parking attendant for the police department and an art teacher for the city's recreation department.

In 1997, she was hired to do the cover artwork for the El Cerrito brochures and later began doing the design and art for the

entire issue, which she still does today.

More recently, she began doing Web design and marketing for the Independent Adoption Center, which matches up people looking to adopt children with expectant mothers. The center was looking for a graphic artist and Web designer and Weeks thought the job sounded perfect for her.

At the time, she was looking to adopt a child and had designed a "Dear Birth Mother," letter a personal biography for people looking to give up their child to adoptive parents.

Instead of sending a design portfolio, she sent the letter to the adoption agency and got the job in the fall of 2000.

Last year, Weeks was finally able to adopt a daughter, 5-month-old Madison.

Weeks also has an older daughter, Stacey Nelson, now 22. Having grown up in El Cerrito and with her parents living there, she plans to move back within a couple of months to a home in the hills.

Weeks can be contacted through her Web site at www.ren-derz.net.

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or alopez1@cctimes.com.

GOP activist looking to clip right-wing extremists

WHEN TRENT LOTT resigned as Senate majority leader, no one was happier than Jim Hartman of Berkeley. He's the chairman of the Alameda County Republican Central Committee, and Lott represents everything he's been fighting against. For more than 10 years, he's been waging an uphill battle against the wing nuts who took over the California Republican Party in a well-orchestrated putsch in 1989.

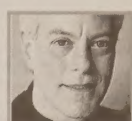
"I was appalled," he says. "The first thing they did was take down Pete Wilson's picture and literally put it in the closet. At the state convention, they booed and hissed Charley Plummer's name every time it was mentioned. And whenever we tried to talk about gay rights, they'd scream 'sodomites' at us."

But Hartman is no lefty. He's been a conservative since he was a teenager, when he heard an actor named Ronald Reagan speak at a rally on the Albany High School football field in 1964. The difference between him and the wing nuts is the difference between a conservative and a reactionary. If anyone is going to purge the haters from our society, it's going to be honest conservatives like him.

Two years ago, he put together a slate of candidates that took back the Alameda County central committee from the right-wingers. But the next step — taking back the state party — is going to be a lot harder, because the deck is stacked.

"Each county with a Republican plurality gets an extra delegate to the state Central Committee, which favors the conservative rural counties in the eastern part of the state," he says. "Alpine County, which has only 700 Republican voters, gets five delegates, but Alameda County, with more than 700,000 voters, gets only four. Modoc, with 5,000 voters, gets five delegates, but Contra Costa, with 500,000 voters, gets only four."

But it gets even worse, because counties are also awarded delegates for each Republican office holder. Which means Shasta County gets another eight delegates for electing a Republican congressman, another eight delegates for electing a Republican assemblyman, and another nine delegates for electing a Republican



MARTIN SNAPP
Snapp Shots

state senator. That adds up to 28 delegates. Alameda County gets only five.

"These rural counties are 90 percent Caucasian, with declining populations and high chronic unemployment," says Hartman. "They're more like the Dakotas than Silicon Valley. We're never going to win statewide until the party reflects the demographic reality of the state."

But it's not so wild a dream as you might expect. When Hartman was growing up in the '50s and early '60s, the Republican Party was still a place where African Americans could feel at home.

The only African American in the U.S. Senate was a Republican, Edward Brooke. It was a Republican president, Dwight D. Eisenhower, who sent in troops to integrate Little Rock High School. And it was the Senate Republican leader, Everett Dirksen, who delivered the votes that broke the Dixiecrat stranglehold and helped pass the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Closer to home, Hartman's political hero when he was a kid was Art Fletcher, an African American Berkeley Republican who later served in the Nixon Administration and wrote the Philadelphia Rules, which broke the back of racist hiring practices in the construction unions.

And Hartman remains hopeful that those glory days can be resurrected. "This is the Party of Lincoln," he says, "not the Party of Jefferson Davis."

Jim Hartman is a hero for our time. He's fighting for the soul of the Republican Party. And you should be rooting for him, even if you're a Democrat.

Reach Martin Snapp at 510-262-2787 or e-mail msnapp@cctimes.com.

sniffles, ant wars and political correctness

NEWSCASTER Paul Harvey made a career of telling people, "the rest of the story." I received considerable comment on recent issues and thought you enjoy the rest of some of stories.

column on the disappearance of handkerchiefs Suzanne Stroh and other out that it was unsanitary pocket cotton hankies versus use. True, but the germs released by tissue sneeze! Tissues resulted for the quick response needed to stifle one.

When I was the "fastest archer in the West," I drew cloth and block one by one. I draw cloth and block one by one. I draw cloth and block one by one. I draw cloth and block one by one.

My column on ants elicited suggestions for offing them with vinegar or chalk. We found spraying with vinegar kept them out of the tub but left it smelling like salad. And Miraculous Insecticide Chalk from Happy Produce in Albany proved very effective.

But one reader was not amused by this column and alleged "overt racism" in my comparison of the failure of ant tactics to those of the Viet Cong in the Tet offensive. He claimed that Asians, "had been frequently portrayed pejoratively in terms of hordes, teeming masses, rats and ants."

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DAVE GREER
Man About Town

visiting a small Schwarz store in New England. Part of a long-term zeitgeist, Schwarz had an ambience beyond the sum of its toys.

I nearly failed to get a picture of Gerald Rivera for my media feeding frenzy column. When about to shoot, a leg cramp dropped me almost on top of Channel 14 reporter Beatriz Ferrari. Assisted to my feet by the lovely lady, I scored the only press picture of the Fox News star at the Berkeley Marina.

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Although I have never seen Asians portrayed as either ants or rats, the term "horde" has been used for centuries to describe the numerous Asiatic invasions of the Middle East, Europe, and Russia. Batu Kahn's "Golden Horde," which ruled Russia for some two and a half centuries, is the best known of them.

Political correctness, severed from reality as it was by my critic, would dictate that the term horde be stricken from all history books. To be on the safe side, any mention of invasions by Mongols, Huns, Magyars, Bulgars, Avars, Khazars, Cumans, Turks, and many others should also be excised.

While purporting to safeguard sensibilities and promote equal treatment for racial minorities, women and non-heterosexuals, political correctness has become a means of

controlling what ideas can be expressed and in what words.

This control is enforced through baseless allegations and by branding people "racists," "xenophobes," "homophobes," etc., to intimidate and silence them. Victims who defend themselves become mired in the quicksand of trying to prove a negative. Media folks learn self-censorship to avoid these calumnies.

With so many grave problems facing our nation, we should eschew this schoolyard bullying and seek the truth through free and civil discussion. I hold out the hand of friendship to all in the hope that we can, in the words of the great Lyndon B. Johnson, "reason together."

Dave Greer is a longtime Albany resident.

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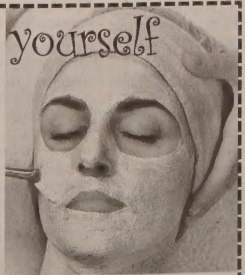
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THE JOURNAL

"... were it left to me to decide whether we should
have a government without newspapers, or newspapers
without a government, I should not hesitate a moment
to prefer the latter."

— Thomas Jefferson

EDITORIAL

Spring is coming,
raining cats and dogs

THEY ARE the never-fail icons of cute: puppies and kittens, with soft fur and big eyes, sure to elicit the proper, "Aww," from all but the most hard-hearted, and unlock the universal cry, "Mommy, can we have one?"

But the reality is that once spring arrives — and it's right around the corner — the number of kittens and puppies will increase far beyond the number of homes ready and willing to care for them. And soon afterward, animal shelters and animal rescue groups will be handling the overflow, those dogs and cats left without homes, some in seriously bad health.

What is known as "kitten season" runs from approximately April to November. Now, consider that, according to Tony La Russa's Animal Rescue Foundation, that "for every person born in the USA, there are 15 dogs and 45 cats born. In addition, one cat and its offspring can create 420,000 cats in just six years."

The East Bay, for the most part, loves its animals. Berkeley voters in November overwhelmingly approved bonds to rebuild its animal shelter. Last year, it officially recognized, by City Council decree, pets as "companions" rather than property.

So why do we find animals, our former best friends and their offspring, dejectedly creeping around shoreline parks, scavenging off city streets, suddenly left with no choice but to fend for themselves after their former owner unceremoniously dumps them?

Because people often don't care when it counts, and the animals pay the consequences. It sounds simple but it's amazing how many people don't opt to spay or neuter.

Excuses are bountiful: "My cat (or dog) won't act the same." Right — Fluffy or Bowzer won't keep trying to get out of the house to find a mate, but instead will be calmer, more affectionate and want to stay home. And spayed female cats and dogs don't go through messy heat cycles.

"I want my child to see the miracle of birth, and then share the kitties (or puppies) with my friends." First of all, many cats and dogs give birth in closets, under beds or under the house, away from prying eyes of humans. And even if you find homes for all of the litter, there's no guarantee that the people will keep them, or have them spayed or neutered, so it starts again.

"I can't afford the operation."

And that's where the rescue groups come to the aid of pets AND their owners. ARF works with a list of 45 veterinarians in Contra Costa County to provide low-cost spay and neutering services to low-income families, and the volunteers and staff members at ARF will help those who ask for information by calling 925-256-1ARF (925-256-1273).

The Contra Costa County Animal Service Department operates a Spay/Neuter/Vaccination Clinic all week, except for Sunday and Monday, that offers low-cost, quality service. Cats can be spayed for \$35 or neutered for \$20; the cost for dogs, which varies according to weight, is from \$40-\$80 for spaying females or \$25-\$50 for neutering males. This is an affordable service from the county to prevent the high cost of boarding and euthanizing homeless animals; call 925-646-2995.

And Berkeley Animal Care Services offers the SNYP program — Spay or Neuter Your Pet. With proof of Berkeley residency, people can get cats neutered for \$10, spayed for \$15. Dogs run \$25 for males, \$30 for females.

To take advantage of the program, bring proof of residency to the shelter at 2013 Second St. Staff will give out a SNYP voucher for a participating veterinarian. For office hours or more information, call the center at 510-981-6600.

And if you find yourself in need of a companion, there are plenty out there, also in need of a friend and a home. Check with Berkeley Animal Care Services at the address above, or the Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society, located on Carleton Street between Eighth and Ninth streets. The society's adoption hotline is 510-845-7735.

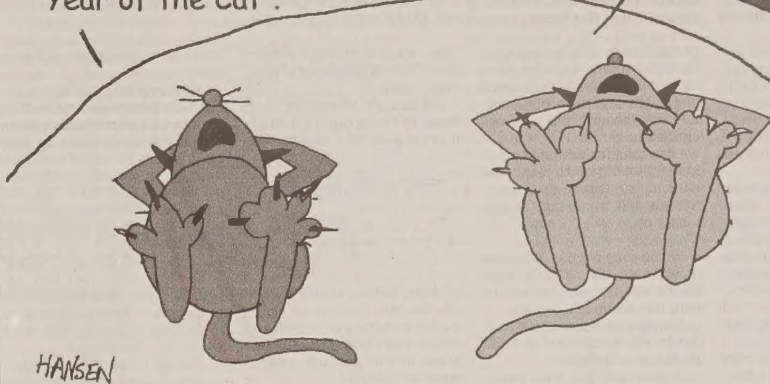
Another key to happy, healthy animals is to educate people about responsible pet ownership, and ARF, the county and most rescue groups are happy to help anyone who asks. Check out a couple of Web sites, like ARF's at www.tlr-arf.org or the county's at www.ccasd.org, to find out more about spaying and neutering, pet education — and adopting that special pet.

JEFF HANSEN • HILLS NEWSPAPERS

THIS CHINESE NEW YEAR
IS THE YEAR OF THE RAM

You'd think there
would be a
"Year of the Cat".

Hmmm. What's up
with that?



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Bring on your flags

Bush and Cheney, though notorious chicken hawks of the Vietnam War, will soon have their war on Iraq — using fear, innuendoes, lies, bribes and threats to serve their purposes with the American people and foreign countries.

It is fortunate the people of Iraq do not feel pain, fear, hunger and cold as we do, so we can self-righteously drop 500 GBU-11 bombs as we did in Afghanistan — bombs from which a person is safe only at 500 meters (five football fields) behind cover.

Credit is due a compliant Congress, including spineless Democrats who have given Bush unconstitutional authority, and a frightened, uninformed, uncaring electorate.

Cooperation of the media has been effective. Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld's advice: "Here's how to deal with the media. Begin with an illogical premise and proceed logically to an illogical conclusion."

Excerpts from a "prayer" by cynical Mark Twain: "O Lord our God, help us to tear their soldiers to bloody shreds with our shells, shrieks of the wounded writhing in pain. . . . We ask it in the spirit of love of him who is the source of love and with humble contrite hearts."

Patriotism is not displaying flags, but in following and supporting the U.S. Constitution. Nevertheless, when the bombs begin to fall, the flags will become ubiquitous and displayed with self-righteous fervor.

Bring on your flags. I shall tie a black ribbon to my front-yard tree.

Marion K. Matlin
El Cerrito

Provide equal education

Education has failed as a source of equality among various people.

After 30 years, affirmative action has not only proven to be a failure, but may increase the equality gaps by its focus on the wrong cause. Quotas and blaming others will never resolve this. It has been shown that the quality of public education has fallen continuously over the past 50 years to the point that businesses have had to import people from the Third World to find qualified employees. This has affected all young people, but particularly low-income minorities.

Our local schools are notable for their failure to provide our children with realistic skills in reading and math, making it nearly impossible to compete equally for good jobs. Too many children have moved on to middle school with third-grade literacy skills.

Education "professionals" feel threatened and have resisted all attempts to change and improve the current system. In my thinking, that attitude is clearly racist.

We must work together to change our education system as we will never approach equality until all children are provided with grade level or better education.

John Muth
El Cerrito

Segway is heaven

Graceful, gliding, gentle — the Segway Human Transporter is a dream come true. Eleven years of mobility restrictions melted away as I rode the elegantly-de-

signed Segway in San Francisco in November. Heaven.

You say: "Fine, but what about me? I don't want you bashing into me on a sidewalk!" "Urban myth," I respond. "No bashing. Myths propagated by well-meaning, misguided advocates for the disabled, children and elderly."

I'm disabled. I have children. My vulnerability puts me into the fragile physical status of disabled elderly. I don't dare be struck by anything, including your empty shopping cart in a supermarket shopping lot.

But here's the thing: The Segway behaves like an extension of your own body. We bodies just don't walk around bashing into other people on the sidewalk. Likewise, a Segway sidewalk rider would find it difficult to run into anyone. The gyroscope/computer platform basically prevents that; it is exquisitely responsive.

Any pedestrian contact would require willful intent. Additionally, the rider also would have to overcome deeply ingrained unconscious behaviors that protect him from colliding his body into another's (the platform's sensitivity automatically halts the rider).

Sidewalk Segway riders naturally adjust to integrate themselves among pedestrians. Safe, sweet movements.

Now ask me about environmental benefits.

Valerie Cheasty
Albany

Marched for peace

In an open, democratic society, we are fortunate to have the right to vote and a right to protest when we see our government moving on a dangerous path to war.

The nonviolent anti-war protest in San Francisco was a "peace" parade of thousands of caring Americans working together to send messages to our president and people of the world.

In this column on Jan. 31, I took notice of a letter by Bill McKenna of Albany, titled "Peace parade?" The single sentence following struck me as being a snide form of innuendo discrediting marchers. I suspect the writer of that letter was not at that peace march or has never been in a real war-zone.

Why should I care? My wife and I marched in the peace parade. I am 79 and part of the World War II generation of veterans who served on foreign soil. I wore my original Navy uniform and ribbons. Together, we were antiques.

Veterans without uniforms from World War II, Korea and Vietnam came up to me with extended hands to communicate agreement with my sign, "NO WAR." A group of members from the Veterans of Foreign Wars marched with my banner.

Young people, senior citizens, and

HOW TO REACH US

Letters to the editor reflect the opinion of the writer. Letters must include your first and last name, address and daytime phone number. All letters are subject to verification. All letters are subject to editing for brevity and style. Not all letters may be published.

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FAX: 510-644-1735

E-MAIL: journal@cctimes.com

mixed racial groups all marched under to shoulder. A German man with hair came to me and said, "Thank you for liberating my country." I knew speaking to all American services.

Precious moments filled the air as wife and I were proud to be part of energetic movement of caring people.

Eldo

A contradiction?

Did anybody else notice that the man who sued Brinks over wearing pants because of her Pentecostal belief in wearing men's clothes appeared wearing a man's leather jacket?

Janet F.

B

No unilateral action on

No unilateral action on Iraq, League of Women Voters. The U.S. firmly believes strengthening the Nations is our best protection against reckless actions by any nation, in our own, particularly when such could lead to the use of nuclear or biological weapons.

Unilateral action would detract from ongoing efforts to combat terrorism would encourage a resurgence of American hostility in western and western nations. The United States work actively and constructively with the U.N. system, exercising leadership to support an international consensus demanding responsible behavior by the Saddam regime.

Military action against Iraq is the result of multinational decisions of the United Nations, the body established to work toward resolution of disputes and infringements of rights. Neither the president nor Congress has the authority to set or any other treaty currently in the Constitution explicitly states that are "the supreme law of the land."

Working with the United Nations, the world the United States acting solely for its own benefit assures the American people that the States is not acting alone. It increases chances of long-term success in international peacekeeping and building efforts.

And, if military action is required, spreads the cost of that action to nations that determine such a

The question has arisen: Is the question for the proposed intervention on moral grounds or on political grounds? Each citizen has the right to examine the information available to make that judgment. Furthermore, urge each individual to make congressional representatives aware of whatever conclusions are reached.

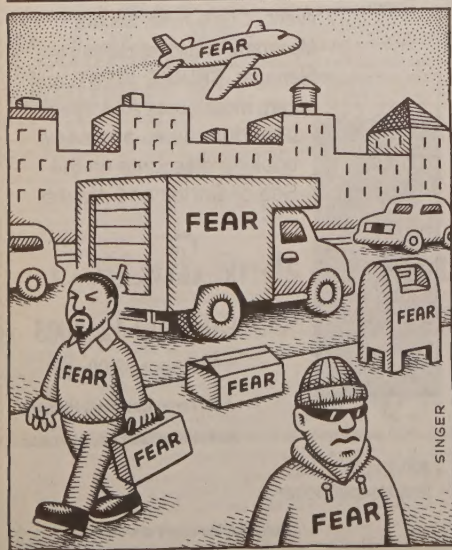
Nat

Lok

Bickel is the president of Women Voters of Berkeley, Albany and Brubeck is its president.

NO EXIT

© Andy Singer



Program challenges ways thinking about racism

“BEYOND DIVERSITY” changed my life. So I went into this seminar for educators with pretty high expectations. After just completed the seminar, I can say it was eye-opening, challenging, worthwhile. Was it life-changing? After mulling this over for many hours, I realize that Glenn Singleton promised me with an incredible amount of information and perspective. Whether it was my life up to me. I realized, I had a difficult time getting a complete picture from anyone. I have a pretty good idea why now. A big part of what happens isn't the activities themselves but how each individual feels about what he experienced, and those experiences are difficult to sort out with others. One of the first things that I was told was that we were asked to “Tell your truth.” I am a journalist-turned-educator, so considering the idea of “truth” isn't one truth but many. Each have our own ways of life-changing in itself. When talking about race for the first time, it's pretty clear to me that objectivity is often an illusion. What I see through my own eyes and reflect on people's responses to my experiences may be very different from what a person of color in the same situation would experience. When one activity, we were told that percent of our life is spent by race. I kept counting the number in my mind until it reached 100 percent. There are two main reasons for this. One is that this number began affecting my life. I was born because of racism, grandparents and are white, and that gave certain advantages. Two, that I have the luxury of thinking about race of the time is a result of that I am white, so that it's a way in which race is another interpretation of



BETTY KING BUGINAS
Schools

“tell your truth” that I am struggling to honor is that it means you tell your own story, not someone else's. I often find it easier to report on what someone else has to say, rather than share my own beliefs and experiences.

I find this is doubly true when it comes to race. It's fine to talk about race when it is someone else's. But Singleton challenges that white people think of themselves as the norm, and really need to own up to the fact that white is a race as well — that as white people, we have our own culture. So much of the kind of culture that is about traditions and music and such, but a culture of expecting that we are entitled to certain things, that we can take for granted so much. I would much rather intellectualize about race than think or talk about my own whiteness.

In addition to “tell your truth,” we were asked to accept non-closure. For me, this meant not being handed my hoped-for plan for change to take back to the classroom. But we really didn't talk much about our classrooms; we talked about ourselves, and about race in our society. The hard truth I find in this is that someone else can't just hand us a laundry list of things to do that will eradicate racism in our schools. This is about all of us taking a hard, honest look at ourselves, and having what Singleton referred to as “courageous conversations” about race.

More information on “Beyond Diversity” can be found at www.pacificeducationalgroup.com.

Betty King Buginas is a teacher in the West Contra Costa Unified School District.

Volunteers: backbone of entire library system

Quote of the week:
“Public work brings a vicarious but assured sense of immortality. We may be poor, weak, timid, in debt to our landlady, bullied by our nieces, stiff in the joints, shortsighted and distressed; we shall perish, but the cause endures; the cause is great.”
— Winifred Holtby, “The Right Side of Thirty” (1930)



JULIE WINKELSTEIN
At the Library

I'VE BEEN THINKING about library volunteers, lately — those people who quietly come in to a library and replace book covers, shelve picture books, tutor at the Homework Center, prepare mailings, take books to house-bound patrons, tutor seniors on the Internet.

Sometimes when I'm sitting at my desk, I look around and there they are — working away. They come in, sign in and get to work.

How many hours would you guess these volunteers work? For the 11 Alameda County Library branches, statistics show 9,332 hours for fiscal 2001-2002. For the Contra Costa Library system, this number was

32,000 hours for 23 branches, not including Friends.

It is heartening, especially in times when libraries have to struggle for financial support, to know there are people who not only believe in the importance of our institution, but are willing to spend the hours it takes to help. Some volunteers are part of the Friends group for a library — and much of what they do is about raising money for their library. But others just like helping — and their help is invaluable.

The Richmond Library has a smaller volunteer program, which includes teen and adult volunteers. Teens straighten and clean books, fill pencil cups, stamp bookmarks, prepare craft materials for craft programs, put magazines in order and do other jobs that help

keep the library running smoothly. The adult volunteers tutor at their Homework Help evenings.

The Albany Library also has teen and adult volunteers. Some of the teens tutor at the Homework Center, but others, like the adults, spend their hours boxing discards, putting together informational pamphlets, stamping the tops of books, shelving magazines, rebarcoding audio-visual materials for the self-checkout machine and repairing books — gluing spines, taping pages, erasing pencil marks. One volunteer weeds the magazines every year and another worked on the photographs for the historical collection.

It is easy to underestimate the importance of our volunteers. But all the small jobs add up, as anyone who runs a house knows. I remember several years ago visiting a relative who had retired. He was sitting in his living room, sewing a button onto a sweater. It wasn't a highly visible button or a particularly favorite sweater, and I remember thinking of my daily mental list and

all the small tasks that never make it to the top. Finally, at the age of 80, he'd gotten to them.

So, I guess you could say, having volunteers means the bottom half of a library's to-do list gets done. I haven't mentioned the immense amount of volunteer work required to run the book sales at these libraries. More about this in another column.

READER REVIEW: Today's book review is from “a faithful patron” and the book is “Hamlet's Dresser” by Bob Smith. It is a memoir and recommended for high-school age and up. It is about “a young man who is caring for a severely mentally handicapped sister. He gets his life saved by becoming interested in Shakespeare's plays and he meets several famous interesting people, like Katherine Mansfield and Burt Lahr. It's a book that even if you're not interested in the theater you might find fascinating.”

I can be reached at the Albany Library or at jwinkelstein@aol.com.

Fee hikes will help regional parks' bottom line

SOME FEE INCREASES for the year 2003 have just been approved for East Bay Regional Park District programs and facilities, but the good news is that many of the basic fees will remain unchanged.

For example, there is a parking fee of \$4 per vehicle at many of the regional parks, when the entrance kiosk is attended. This fee will not increase. Parks in West Contra Costa that charge this fee include Point Pinole Regional Shoreline, Kennedy Grove Regional Recreation Area, and Briones Regional Park (at two entrances).

You can still get in for free at Miller-Knox and Carquinez Regional Shorelines, Wildcat Canyon and Tilden regional parks, and three entrances at Briones. This is true of many parks throughout the district.

Swim fees at Tilden's Lake Anza will go up 50 cents to \$3.50 for ages 16 to 61; \$2.50 for ages 1 to 15, seniors and disabled persons; and free for infants under a year old.

There will soon be a new parking fee of \$2 per vehicle



PARK IT
Ned MacKay

Point Isabel Regional Shoreline in Richmond. It will be payable at an “iron ranger,” which is an electrical fee-collecting device. The system has been in effect for a couple of years at a regional park staging area in Livermore, so it is being extended this year to Point Isabel, Round Valley in Brentwood and Pleasanton Ridge in Pleasanton.

Camping will cost more in the regional parks this year. The basic fee at Anthony Chabot Family Camp in Castro Valley will increase to \$16 per night for a walk-in or drive-in tent site. And it will cost \$16 per night for a family site at Del Valle Regional Park south of Livermore. The parking fee at Del Valle and at Shadow Cliffs in Pleasanton will increase to \$6 per vehicle. There also will be fee in-

creases for use of some rental facilities such as the Brazil Room at Tilden Regional Park in Berkeley, the Fern Cottage at Kennedy Grove in El Sobrante, and the Beach House at Lake Temescal in Oakland. Temescal's parking fee remains \$4, the swim fee goes up 50 cents.

The fee structure at Ardenwood Historic Farm in Fremont will not change in 2003.

Fishing access permits will cost the same as last year — \$4 per day for anglers aged 16 and older.

The Park District's fee structure is a bit too complicated to describe here in detail. But there's a lot of fee information on the district Web site, www.ebparks.org, or you can phone 510-562-PARK (7275).

According to Jerry Kent, the park district's assistant general manager for operations and interpretation, the fees charged by the district are comparable to those charged by other outdoor recreation public agencies in the region. Fees help to defray the increasing costs of operations and maintenance at the regional parks.

If you visit the regional parks often, you should consider purchasing a Park District annual membership, which provides benefits such as free parking and swimming. For information on the membership program, phone 510-544-2203.

Speaking of free, there are a couple of free programs scheduled Saturday, Feb. 8, at Sibley Volcanic Regional Preserve in the Oakland hills, both led by park district naturalist Gail Broesder.

The first will be from 11 a.m. to noon at Sibley's visitor center. Gail will talk a bit about Sibley's natural history, then lead a hike in search of newts, salamanders and frogs.

Then from noon to 2:30 p.m. Gail will lead another hike through Sibley's volcanic geology and wetland habitats. For more information on these programs, phone 510-521-6887.

Sibley Preserve is located on Skyline Boulevard just south of the junction with Grizzly Peak Boulevard in Oakland. Parking is free.

EL CERRITO SCHOOL NEWS

AUSD

ENROLLMENT: February is Open House month for grades K-5. Registration for March 31 is required for registration. If you are interested in your child attending at other than your neighborhood school, you may apply for an intra-district transfer through February. Applications have been given to every 5th- and 6th-grade student in the district. You may also pick up an application at your school. Mail your application to: WCCUSD Transfer Office, 108 157 - 9th Street, Richmond, CA 94801. Phone: 510-528-2124. Or take application to District Transfer Office, except for 17-21 when schools are closed. Details: Week Recess. Community applications are accepted only at District Office, not at the school.

TRANSFER: District policy permits transferring as there is space available at requested school. Families at the school will receive specific information for their choice options as provided by the New Child Left Behind. Details: 510-528-2124.

GRAD NITE: Grad Nite tickets for graduating seniors will be available for purchase in the main hallway during Back-to-School Night. Tickets are \$40, checks accepted, payable to ECHS-Grad Nite '03. Come by and buy tickets, pick-up important information regarding planning the party. A Grad Nite meeting will be held Wednesday, Feb. 12, ROOM 812, 7:30 p.m.

— Compiled from WCCUSD press releases and school e-mail trees

from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 157 Ninth St., Room 110, Richmond, next door to the Transfer Office.

Most schools will offer a.m. and p.m. kindergarten sessions; when you register, indicate which you prefer. To register your child for kindergarten, bring the following papers to your neighborhood school: 1. Proof of age (birth certificate or baptismal record), 2. Proof of immunizations, 3. Proof of residence, such as a current PG&E bill, and a driver's license or other identification with residence address, or one other bill or document with residence address. Immunizations are available at the Richmond Public Health Department Immunization Clinic, 39th Street and Bissell Avenue, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday; see habla Espanol. There is a \$10 fee per child.

For families with two or more children, the clinic charges a family fee of \$20. Details: 510-231-8555.

El Cerrito High School

HELP WITH EXIT EXAM: Volunteer parents are needed to assist with the High School Exit Exam at ECHS on March 4, 5 and 6 from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Parents must not have a 10th- or 11th-grade student who has not passed the exam. If interested contact Mrs. Susan Ceballos, Assistant Principal phone 510-525-0234 ext. 2619

GRAD NITE: Grad Nite tickets for graduating seniors will be available for purchase in the main hallway during Back-to-School Night. Tickets are \$40, checks accepted, payable to ECHS-Grad Nite '03. Come by and buy tickets, pick-up important information regarding planning the party. A Grad Nite meeting will be held Wednesday, Feb. 12, ROOM 812, 7:30 p.m.

ALBANY PTA NEWS

Albany High School

Feb. 7 and 14, Student Musical “Guys and Dolls,” 8 p.m.

Feb. 8 and 15, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Feb. 9, 5 p.m., AHS Little Theater, Tickets \$10/adults, \$5/students and seniors, to reserve tickets call 510-558-2575

Feb. 12, AHS Chapter of Albany Music Fund Meeting, 7 p.m., AHS Library Feb. 22, Learn to Salsa Dance Party, Doors open at 7 p.m. for dessert bar, dance lessons at 8 p.m., AHS Multi-Purpose Room, tickets \$15 (16 years and up), \$25/couple, for reservations call 510-525-2716, a fund-raiser for AHS Football Program

March 6, Embracing Diversity Films showing, “Boys will be Men,” 7 p.m., AHS Multi-Purpose Room, Volunteers Needed, call Maxine and Dave Gilkerson, 510-243-0797

Scrip: Edna Shipley at 510-527-0745, e-

mail: Ednaming@aol.com or Karen Moss at 510-526-2018, e-mail: karenmoss@sbcglobal.net 510-526-2018

Albany Middle School

Feb. 14, ESL Luncheon, Volunteers Needed, contact Hao Quinn at 510-524-6158 or haquin@pacbell.net

Cornell Elementary School

Receive announcements by e-mail. Contact Barbara Grady-Ayer at gradayer@aol.com

Scrip orders: Call Mark Priven 510-528-2082 or e-mail: privenwest@pacbell.net

Marin Elementary School

Receive announcements by e-mail. Contact Tree Stuber at marinetree@aol.com

Feb. 13, PTA Meeting, 7 p.m., Marin Staff Room

Scrip orders: Helene Class, 510-526-

4902 or e-mail: h.class@att.net Paper Scrip in the office Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 8:30 a.m. and Monday and Friday at 9:30 a.m.

Ocean View Elementary

Scrip Orders: Call Kim Denton at 510-528-6480

AUSD Board of Education

Feb. 11, Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m.,

Cornell Multi-Purpose Room

AUSD Calendar

Feb. 17-21, Mid-Winter Break, No school

Items? Call Kay Weinstein at 510-525-0363 or e-mail: kayweinstein@yahoo.com

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Calendar

Submissions to the Community Calendar must be received Thursdays one week prior to publication. Listings are on a space-available basis.

Children

■ **Children's Social Skills** and **Manners workshops** are offered in Albany on Saturdays for two hours, 3 to 5 p.m. Each workshop lasts for four weeks. For more information and registration fees, call Linda at 527-6202.

■ **Teen Support Group** meets twice a month Tuesday evenings at the Women's Cancer Resource Center, 3023 Shattuck Ave. The free group is for teens who have a parent or caregiver with cancer. The meeting is co-facilitated by a teen whose mother had breast cancer. Details: 531-7551.

■ **Check out books** from the Berkeley Richmond Jewish Community Center Library. Spend quality time with your kids, meet with the children's librarian, research your Jewish roots or check out best sellers. The library is located at 1414 Walnut St. Hours: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays. For details, call 848-0237.

■ **Hall of Health**, 2230 Shattuck Ave., a health exhibit museum of Children's Hospital Oakland, presents free puppet shows, 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. The Kids on the Block, the award-winning educational puppet troupe, features puppets with such conditions as cerebral palsy, blindness and Down syndrome. The Hall of Health is a hands-on community, health-education museum and science center sponsored by Children's Hospital Oakland and Alta Bates Medical Center. Hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free. Details: 549-9682.

■ **El Cerrito** offers special programs for children from 22 months to 5 years of age. These programs are designed to offer parents an opportunity to leave their pre-school children in a safe atmosphere under qualified supervision. The program for ages 22 months to 3-1/2 years meets Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon. Registration is continuous as long as space is available. Located at 7007 Mooser Lane. Details: Judie, 215-4371.

■ **LBGTQ Parent** and **Prospective Parent** groups meet the first Saturday of the month 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. with concurrent child care. All groups meet at the Pacific Center at 2712 Telegraph Ave. in Berkeley. Donations are requested, but not required. Details: Anna at familyprogram@yahoo.com or 415-789-8560.

■ **The Ann Martin Children's** Center offers eight "Support Groups For Mothers," sessions for first time mothers and babies their babies under 5 months. Experienced facilitator. Details: 524-0821.

Classes

■ **ASSETS Senior Employment**, job training program for income-eligible Oakland, Emeryville, Berkeley or Albany residents, 55 and older, offer classes in Early Childhood Development. Seniors can receive college credits while being paid. Classes start mid-November. Call 238-3535 for more information.

■ **The Albany Library**, 1247 Marin Ave., offers free, ongoing chess instruction Tuesdays, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The lessons range from fundamental to advanced topics, and also casual play. This program is led by David Pruess, who holds the Senior Master title and is one of the top chess players and teachers in California. All levels are welcome and chess sets are provided. Call Julie Winkelstein at 510-526-3720 ext. 19.

■ **University of California Botanical Garden** holds a free Slick Plant Clinic on the first Saturday of every month, 9 a.m. to noon. UC Plant pathology and entomology experts will diagnose what ails your plant. UC Botanical Garden is at 200 Centennial Dr. in Berkeley. For information, call 510-643-2755.

■ **Folkdance classes**, Mondays 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Arlington Community Church, 53 Arlington Ave. (across from the Kensington Library). Simple, clear lessons for people of all levels. Emphasis is good music and fun. Cost: \$30 for 6-week session (pro-rated fees apply), \$8 for drop in session. Details: Mel Harte, at 848-5289 before 9 p.m.

■ **Vista Community College**, 2020 Milvia St., offers its new Sunrise College this spring with classes in accounting, e-commerce, business, Java programming, English, ESL, statistics and Spanish for business professionals. Classes start at 7 a.m. and end at 9 a.m. Call 981-2800 for more information.

■ **Assets Senior Employment** offers a job training program for income-eligible people 55 and older living in Oakland, Emeryville, Berkeley and Albany. Earn when you learn. Interested in working with children? You can receive college credit in Early Childhood Development while being paid. Details: 238-3554.

■ **Julia Morgan Center for the Arts**, 2640 College Ave., offers a family-friendly program of classes, workshops and activities taught by professional teaching artists, all aimed at bringing arts participation into people's everyday lives. Classes take place at the Julia Morgan Center for the Arts. For details, including class descriptions, fees, and instructor bios, call 845-8542 or see www.juliamorgan.org.

■ **The Berkeley Adult School** offers Adult Basic Education classes, High School Diploma Requirement classes, General Educational Development Preparation classes which can be utilized to earn a GED certificate, and Preparation for US Citizenship classes. The classes are free. BAS also offers, for an affordable fee, a variety of vocational classes and computer classes, ranging from introduction to Computers to Advanced Computer Applications. Details: 844-6130.

■ **The South Berkeley Senior Center**, 2939 Ellis St., offers a variety of classes. Details: 883-5222.

■ **Interview Clinics** sponsored by Turning Point Center at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, are held on Monday mornings from 9-11 by appointment. 30-minute sessions are \$15 for YWCA members and \$20 for non-members. Call 848-6370 and leave a message to reserve an appointment time. Leave a name and telephone number.

■ **A free CopWatch** class takes place Monday nights from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at 2022 Blake St. near Shattuck. Know your rights. Details: 548-0425.

■ **Berkeley Community Media**, Channel 25, offers affordable classes in video production and editing to Berkeley residents. Free orientations designed to introduce BCM to the public are held Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m. at 2239 Martin Luther King Jr. Way. Details: 848-2288 and ask for Patrick, John or Sage.

■ **Ashkenaz**, 1317 San Pablo Ave., offers many dance classes ranging from Afro-Cuban to Kalarjani Dances of India, to West Coast Swing to Lindy Hop and East Coast Swing. Ashkenaz is a non-profit music and dance community center. Details: 525-5054.

■ **Life Stories/College** and **Ceramics** classes forming at St. John's Senior Center, 2727 College Ave., Tuesday mornings 9 a.m. to noon. All are welcome. Free. Sponsored by Berkeley Adult School. Details: 845-6830.

■ **Contemporary Women's Issues** class is forming at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst St. Free class offered by the Berkeley Adult School, taught by Judith Carroll, MFCC. Friday mornings 10 a.m. to noon. Open to all women 55 or older. Details: 844-6107.

■ **Dance and Fitness** classes open to all in flamenco, Afro-Brazilian, belly dance, salsa, swing, ballroom, tap, theater dance, yoga, chi gung, tai chi, aikido, pilates-based body conditioning and more at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. Drop in fees: \$8-10. Information: 848-6370.

■ **Let's Swing and Jitterbug**, 7 p.m. beginning classes, 8 p.m. intermediate; four-week dance classes beginning the first Tuesday of the month; Finnish Brotherhood Hall, 1970 Chestnut, Berkeley; Diana Castillo, 549-3591; \$40 for four classes.

Community

■ **The Julia Morgan Center for the Arts** and **Jonathan Moscone** present "Valentine's Day Cabaret," a benefit for the services and programs at the Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, 2640 College Ave. It's a fun musical evening of song and dance with an ensemble from the Shotgun Players performing jazz standards, show tunes and cabaret classics. Couples, singles and groups of all types with their friends, lovers, spouses, partners, soul mates and best buds, are invited to twist and shout, tango and trot, boogie on down at the annual affair. Champaign and chocolates on the house. Admission: \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. Childcare for kids over four years, \$10 for the evening; additional kids from the same family, add \$5 each. Call 925-798-1300 to reserve a space.

■ **Berkeley Neighborhood Computers**, a non-profit organization, provides

NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ARTFUL EXPRESSIONS BY MARK DANNA / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

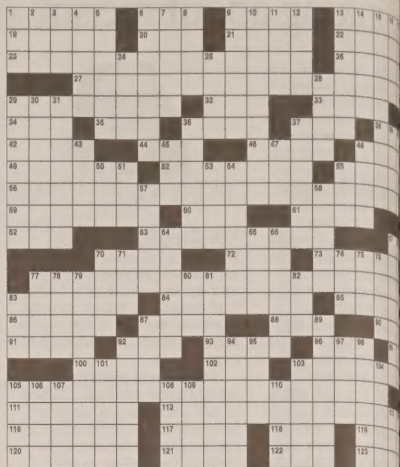
ACROSS

- 1 Mogul
- 6 One for the road
- 9 Declines to take part, with "out"
- 13 Keen
- 19 Napping
- 20 Mobile home?; Abbr.
- 21 He ran from Iran
- 22 In the attic
- 23 "That's very fitting!"
- 26 Paste ingredient
- 27 "You're not O.K. with that, bub?"
- 29 Scene of a May 1942 U.S. victory in W.W.II
- 32 Suffix with access
- 33 Fat removal, for short
- 34 Mail letters
- 35 Orchestra sect.
- 36 Org.
- 37 Groundskeeper's supply
- 38 Try to reach the hard-of-hearing?
- 42 Union strikers
- 44 Give in to gravity
- 46 Mad
- 48 Game player's rickful
- 49 Ring of color
- 52 They're boring
- 55 Barely touched
- 56 "It's a group effort, guys!"
- 59 Top to bottom
- 60 Ancient Hebrew liquid measure
- 61 Prefix with -phile
- 62 Fabric purchase; Abbr.
- 63 Awe
- 67 Away's partner
- 70 Kind of party
- 72 Party member, maybe
- 73 Not unswilling?
- 77 "It's that a new man you're dating?"
- 83 Thingamajig
- 84 Predispensed about
- 85 Iago's wife
- 86 Tanks and such
- 87 Rank
- 88 Prefix with dermis
- 90 Spoil
- 91 Hold
- 92 Glo right
- 93 LAX info
- 96 Sliding door site
- 99 Like some gas; Abbr.
- 100 Wire transfer?; Abbr.
- 102 Heading in cable TV listings
- 103 Nudity
- 105 "This could lead to something big!"
- 111 Uneat neighbors
- 112 "I demand to see cash-up-front!"

For any three answers, call from a touch-tone phone: 1-900-245-5656, \$1.20 each minute.

DOWN

- 1 "Uh-uh"
- 2 Pother
- 3 A violinist might use one or take one
- 4 Shenying-born conductor
- 5 Jewelers' offerings
- 6 Some Teamsters
- 7 Hello or goodbye
- 8 Absorbed
- 9 Basketmaker's supplies
- 10 Links to esophagi
- 11 New Criticism poet
- 12 Queens diamond holder
- 13 Lindgren, creator of Pippi Longstocking
- 14 Urban sitting place
- 15 Not so feminine
- 16 River to the Capitan
- 17 Béret setting
- 18 Another name for the biblical Esau
- 24 Ant, maybe
- 25 Fraternity characters
- 26 When repeated, start of an old anticid jingle
- 29 Bagel topper
- 30 Mathematical quantity acted upon
- 31 Best Actress of 2000
- 36 First name in mysteries
- 37 "This early?"
- 39 "What ___?"
- 40 Look of just
- 41 It was dropped in the 60's
- 43 Gallery area
- 45 Author Rand
- 47 Table scrap
- 48 One of the Jacksons
- 50 First name in horror
- 51 Khan
- 53 Brinacine
- 54 Certain bowling target
- 55 Scope
- 57 Conception
- 58 Los Angeles attraction, with "be"
- 64 Rossini's "The Thieving..."
- 65 Jazz pianist Allison
- 66 Makes up
- 67 Bomb
- 68 Decks out
- 69 Fixes at a gallery



- 70 Old monarch
- 71 "That's ___"
- 74 Want ad init.
- 75 What to pay
- 76 Hardly a brainiac
- 77 Sported
- 78 Directive to a chauffeur
- 79 They go on for miles
- 80 What may follow
- 81 Objects of much ribbing
- 82 Duo...
- 83 Pop
- 87 Kind of support
- 89 Novel that includes Robin Hood
- 92 They need bottle openers
- 94 1990 Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductees
- 95 Campus site
- 97 "Acoustic soul" singer India...
- 98 Court figure
- 101 Grande
- 103 Haircut style
- 104 African antelope
- 105 Stimulate
- 106 "As the Crow Flies" comedian essayist
- 107 World's largest island
- 108 Dismissal in court
- 110 Comedian
- 111 Long hair
- 112 1981 Oscar
- 113 1981 Oscar

high-value and high-demand computer technology training for disadvantaged and at-risk individuals. The organization seeks computers and networking equipment to be used for training purposes. All donations are tax deductible. Details: 845-1226 or e-mail bnc@netvalue.net.

■ **Berkeley Camera Club** meet Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. at the Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda, Berkeley. Share slides and prints, learn what other photographers are doing. Monthly field trips. Details: 525-3565.

■ **TOPS** (Take Pounds Off Sensibly) Chapter CA 1294 is now meeting from 7:15-8:30 p.m. every Thursday evening at Mira Vista UCC Church, 7075 Cutting Blvd. TOPS is a non-profit organization assisting men and women in weight control. Details: Betty Coates at 235-0490.

■ **Turning Point** at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, sponsors Resume Clinics on Tuesday afternoons, or by appointment. To sign up for an appointment, leave a message several days before you would like to meet. Anne Levine has a background in Design and Education. For the past 10 years, she has assisted in producing numerous resumes as part of her desktop publishing business. Call 848-6370.

■ **Berkeley's Office of Emergency Services** presents a new series of free Community Emergency Response Training classes. The classes give basic, practical information, including hands-on training in fire suppression, light search and rescue, and disaster first aid. All classes are held at the fire department's Emergency Operations Center, 997 Cedar St. The classes are open to everyone, 18 or older, who lives or works in Berkeley. Register: 844-8736.

■ **Berkeley Art Museum**, Pacific Film Archive offers a guided tour of Equal Partner: Men and Women Principals in Contemporary Architectural Practice presented by graduate students from the UC Berkeley Department of Architecture, College of Environmental Design, on alternating Thursdays at 12:15 p.m. and on Sundays at 2 p.m. Details: 842-0808.

■ **Overeaters Anonymous** meet Fridays at 1:30 p.m. at the Northbrae Community Church in Berkeley, 941 The Alameda between Solano and Marin avenues, in Room 2—the child-care room—parents may bring their children. This organization is for individuals who eat compulsively? Details: 525-5231.

■ **Toastmasters**, do it now. Stand up and say what you mean. Come practice—Tuesday, noon to 1 p.m. at 700 Heinz Ave. Call 883-6708 for details.

■ **Civil Rights** activists needed. Write the ACLU chapter of Berkeley, Albany,

Richmond, and Kensington. P.O. Box 11141, Berkeley, CA, 94701.

■ **"Work Buddies"**, volunteers needed to work with people in early stage Alzheimer's Disease. Minimum six-month commitment, two to three hours per week. Training provided. Contact Nannette Lipton, 644-8292.

■ **Psychic Healing** clinic; 7 to 9 p.m. Mondays; free clinic at the Academy for Psychic Studies in Berkeley, aura cleansing, stress relief; 800-642-9355.

■ **SMART project**; the Alcohol Research Group in Berkeley is conducting a study to compare the cost and effectiveness of two kinds of substance abuse treatment: medical model day treatment and social model day treatment. By calling 1-888-249-8802 and agreeing to do three interviews, individuals chosen for the study receive free treatment at existing treatment programs.

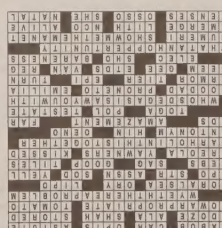
■ **The Edible Schoolyard**, an organic gardening and cooking program at Berkeley's King Middle School, seeks volunteers to work with students, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 558-1335.

■ **English-In-Action** lets you make friends from around the world. Volunteer as a conversation partner with a foreign UC scholar/student for one hour a week. YWCA, at Berkeley, Call 843-9716.

■ **Women's Daytime Drop-in Center** in Berkeley; serving women who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, needs volunteers. The Center is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Volunteers are needed for morning and afternoon shifts. For details call 466-5663.

Exhibits

■ **"Mostly Abstract: Watercolors** by Pamela Markmann," an exhibit of over 30 paintings, continues through February 28, at the Alta Bates Community Gallery, 2450 Ashby Ave. Markmann has exhibited locally and nationally for 40 years. Her themes, related to nature, are revealed in watercolor, ink,



pencil, and wax crayon paper. For more information, call 510-526-4613.

■ **The Glorgi Gallery**, 2911 Claremont Ave., Berkeley, continues its solo show for East Bay artist Jeffrey Levitch through Feb. 16. The show entitled "Flight" consists of oil paintings and works on paper. Gallery hours: Tuesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information, call 510-848-1228.

■ **UC Berkeley's Graduate School of Journalism**, Center for Photography, presents an exhibit by Mexican photographer, Maya Goded, from Jan. 31 through May 1. Goded, recipient of the W. Eugene Smith Fund Award, is a recent nominee to Magnum Photos. She photographs prostitutes and prostitution in order to "speak about women, inequality, transgression, the body and sex, maternity, childhood and old age, beliefs, love and unloving." A reception and public lecture takes place from 6 to 7 p.m. Jan. 31 in room 105. Details: 510-642-3383.

■ **The Berkeley Art Center**, 1275 Walnut St., presents its annual "Members Showcase" through Feb. 15. The exhibition includes paintings in all media, sculpture, works on paper, photography, printmaking, drawing and mixed media. Gallery hours: Wednesday through Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. Admission is free. Details: 510-844-8893.

■ **Berkeley Public Library**, 2090 Kittredge St., continues the Afghanistan photograph display "Before There Were Guns, We Were Brothers," through Feb. 15. The display accompanies a free event "Views of Afghanistan," on Feb. 6, when the photographer joins authors Tamim Ansary and David Fleischacker in a community discussion. Library hours: Monday through Thursday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. For details, call 510-981-6100.

■ **The Magnes Museum** presents three new exhibitions in its Berkeley location,

2911 Russell St., through Feb. 15. Exhibits include "Hidden in the Time Capsule from San Francisco's Lost Sanctuary," "Stephanie Hamakom (The Place)," and "The Screen: Israelis and Palestinians in the San Francisco Jewish Film Festival (1981-2002)." Admission: \$3 students and under 12 free. For more information, call 415-581-8800 or visit the Web at www.magnesmuseum.org.

■ **The Richmond Museum** continues exhibits highlighting the world's agricultural beginnings, trial achievements, and home tribulations during World War I. Exhibits and events are held the year. The museum is located historic 1910 Carnegie Library Old Downtown area at Fourth and Nevin Ave. Call 253-7300 for information or to arrange tours.

■ **El Cerrito** presents Open Monday evening classes on Monday. Experience with clay is helpful. Necessary. Opportunities will be provided for students to explore clay work. Demonstrations will be provided on request. \$7.50 residents, \$8.00 non-residents. The location: Tassajara Center, 2575 Tassajara Road. More details call Julie at 238-3535.

■ **Alta Bates Medical Center** work by members of the California Art Association at the Center for Art Gallery, 2450 Ashby Ave. The gallery is in the main level of the information desk at the entrance. Call 204-4444 for details.

■ **New Pieces Gallery** on Shattuck Ave. shows quilts and soft sculptures and dolls exclusively. The is open during store business hours. Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday

See CALENDAR, Pg. A6

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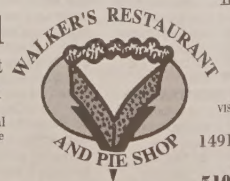
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FAX: 510-595-7668





HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH presents films and videos, including "Afghanistan Year 1380," that showcase heroic stories of international activities and survivors. The showing is Feb. 7, 8, and 9, at the Pacific Film Archive, 2575 Bancroft Way, Berkeley.

endar
PAGE A6
Health

Merle Tooth support group
meeting bi-monthly at West
1125 University Ave.
to 4 p.m. CMT is a neuro-
Details: 524-3506.

Health and Community Edu-
classes in dance, fitness,
and more; University
Bancroft Way; 648-6370;

Workshop
of the Flame: Jewish
Rituals," a facili-
and discussion group led by
place Feb. 16.

March 18 and April 6. Women
backgrounds, serious about ex-
rituals are invited. To
and intimate,
space available. Re-
Rachel Biale's "Women and
The Essential Texts," "Their
Relevance for To-
Details:
Hall at 510-704-9687.

Bay Area Camera Club meets
evening, at 7:30 p.m. at
Community Church, 941
Alameda. Share your
photos and learn what other
members are doing. Monthly
information, call Don at
510-855-0150 or visit the
www.bayareacameraclub.org.

Richmond Jewish Commu-
expanded its collection of
fiction, nonfiction and
books. Meet the children's li-
books. The library is
research your Jewish roots or
best sellers. Hours: 11 and to 6
through Thursday; 6:30
through Tuesday. Details:
510-855-0150.

Chuan and Chi-kung classes
at Berkeley Unitarian Church
on Wednesday evenings and
Sunday mornings at Berkeley
Unitarian Universalists,
St. People of all ages and
backgrounds are welcome to
donation: \$65. To sign up call

Offers free orientations of
the World Using Windows '95
and Access Office 2000 software,
as well as the different
the center has to offer such
variety of workshops. They
every Tuesday, at 1:30 p.m.
Point Career Center is lo-
800 Bancroft Way. For more
848-6370.

Computer Applications for the
World Using Windows '95 and
Access Office 2000 software,
as well as the different
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the center has to offer such
variety of workshops. They
every Tuesday, at 1:30 p.m.
Point Career Center is lo-
800 Bancroft Way. For more
848-6370.

Anonymous: Twelve-Step
every Sunday at 8 p.m. Call
Berkeley location.

Library Events
Library, 1247 Marin Ave.,
the Open Mike and Featured
7 to 9 p.m. Jan. 9, featuring
Kaku. The series takes
the first Thursday in the Edith
month. Due to the holiday, this is
Thursday. A Poetry Writing
takes place second Wednes-
17 to 3 p.m. The next writing
to Jan. 8. Both events are free
to all ages. Light refresh-
be served. For more informa-
Winkstein at 510-526-
192.

Reading Edge is available for
at the Berkeley Public Li-
Alston Way. This computer
text and reads it back
a synthesized voice. It's
for anyone with a disability
to use to access print ma-
must complete a brief train-
before using the Reading
that, reservations are
Call at 644-6648 to set up a
session.

Meetings
Berkeley Public Library, 2090
St., offers a free panel discus-
Patriot Act and Civil Liber-

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ties," at 7 p.m. Feb. 13. Three experts,
two lawyers and an FBI special agent
moderated by Library Director Jackie
Griffin, will speak and take questions
from the audience. The panel will con-
sider particularities of the USA Patriot
Act and other responses to terrorism,
including the Homeland Security Act,
and some ramifications on American
life. Sponsored by the Friends of the Li-
brary. Wheelchair accessible. For more
information, call 510-981-6100.

YWCA Turning Point Career Center,
2600 Bancroft Way, continues its Brown
Bag Career Talks, with the lecture "Ca-
reers in Nursing" from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.
Feb. 11. Dr. Fay L. Bower, Chair of the
Holy Names College Department of
Nursing, and Vanessa Pelton, Recruit-
ment Coordinator for Nursing, discuss
the benefits a challenges of choosing a
career in nursing. Cost: \$3 donation at the
door For more information, visit the
Web site at www.ywca-berkeley.org.

The Downtown Berkeley Toastmas-
ters Club offers speech classes for job
interviews, networking, sales and other
work situations, in a six-week workshop
from noon to 1 p.m. beginning Jan. 30.
Cost: \$39. For more information, and lo-
cation, call DeAnna at 510-595-1594 or
510-841-9277.

Grizzly Peak Flyfishers holds its an-
nual banquet and fund-raiser on Feb. 8,
at the Kensington Community Center,
59 Arlington Ave. Time: 6 p.m. auction
previews; 7:15 p.m. dinner; and 8 p.m.
live auction and annual awards. Auction
items include equipment, guided trips,
and more. Beginners and wobbly
flyfishers are welcome. The organization,
non-profit, is dedicated to conservation
and education through flyfishing. For
more information, call 510-524-028.

Friendship Circle, a Jewish club for
older adults, meet 11:30 to 1:30 p.m.
Wednesdays, at the Oakland Senior
Center, 200 Grand Ave. The club is an
outreach program of Berkeley Rich-
mond Jewish Community Center. Activi-
ties include day trips, Jewish holiday
celebrations, theater outings, entertain-
ment, speaker and much more. Call
Maria at 848-0237 ext. 115 for details.

Improve your speaking skills by at-
tending Berkeley Communicators'
Toastmaster meetings, the first and third
Wednesdays each month at 7:15 a.m.
at Vault's Cafe, 3250 Adeline St. Call
527-2337 for more information.

The Berkeley Camera Club meets
Tuesday evenings 7:30 p.m. at the
Northbrae Community Church, 941 The
Alameda. Share your slides and prints
and learn what other photographers are
doing. Monthly field trips. For more de-
tails call Don at 525-3565.

Disabled American Veterans Chap-
ter 25 meets on the third Tuesday of the
month. The evening begins with a no
host dinner and fellowship at 7 p.m. at
2068 Center St. A short business meet-
ing follows at 8 p.m. at 1931 Center St.,
the Veterans Memorial Building. Price:
\$3. Women who have had relatives in
the US military are invited to attend and
join the Auxiliary. For more details call
R. DeRiti, Cmdr. D.A.V. Chapter 25, 916-
372-8364.

The YWCA offers free orientations of
its Turning Point Career Center. The ori-
entations outline the resources available
to the public and the great variety of
workshops held every Tuesday, 1:30
p.m. The Turning Point Career Center is
located at 2600 Bancroft Way. For more
information, call 648-6370.

The Berkeley Avatar Metaphysics
Toastmasters Club meet on the first and
third Thursdays, from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m.,
at 2515 Hillegass Ave. Public speaking
skills and metaphysics come together.
For details, call 869-2547 or 643-7645.

Berkeley Toastmasters Club meet
monthly, the first and third Thursdays
at 2515 Hillegass Ave. The group special-
izes in developing its communication
and public speaking skills in the field of
metaphysics. The group also learn from
each other through short speeches. Call
Odette Larde at 869-2547 or 643-7645.

The Kensington Senior Activity Cen-
ter meets on Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 2
p.m. in the Arlington Community
Church, 52 Arlington Ave. The center's
community program of life-long learning
is presented by the West Contra Costa
Adult School. Attend any class or event
you choose. Everyone over 55 is wel-
come. Details: 526-9146 or 547-1969.

The YWCA offers free orientations
every Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. of its Turn-
ing Point Career Center, 2600 Bancroft
Way. The orientations outline the cen-
ter's resources and the variety of work-
shops it offers to the public. For details
call 848-6370.

Speak Smart! Join Beijing Express
Toastmasters. The Smart Club! Meet-
ings take place each Monday, 6:15 to
7:30 p.m. at Peking Express Restaurant,
2068 Center St. For additional infor-
mation call 549-9671.

Toastmasters Meeting: Stand up
and say what you mean. Come practice

with us. Every Tuesday, Noon to 1 p.m.
at 700 Heinz Ave. Berkeley. Call 863-
6708 for more information.

Joy of Yiddish: Yiddish conversation
at 1 p.m. at the North Berkeley Senior
Center, 1901 Hearst. Call 644-6107 for
additional information.

The Berkeley Communicators Toast-
masters Club meet on the first and third
Wednesday of the month from 7:15 to
8:30 a.m. at the Berkeley City Club,
2315 Durant. Details: 524-3765.

The Berkeley Arthritis Support and
Education Group meets on the second
Tuesday of each month (except Decem-
ber) 1 to 2:30 p.m. in the Maffly Audi-
torium, Herrick Campus, 2001 Dwight
Way. For additional information call 204-
4503.

Toastmasters on Campus meet the
second and fourth Wednesday of the
month from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at the
English Language Program Building,
2515 Hillegass. Details: 704-1822.

Public speaking skills and meta-
physics come together at Avatar Meta-
physical Toastmasters. On-going meet-
ings first and third Thursdays, 6:15 to
7:30 p.m., 2515 Hillegass Ave., Call
869-2547 for details.

"Voices of Healing" is a group ex-
ploring the psychological and spiritual
dimensions of illness and healing. The
group meets on the second Friday of
each month, 1 to 2:30 p.m. in North
Berkeley. Call 528-1235 for more infor-
mation.

State Health Toastmasters Club meet
every second, third and fourth Thurs-
day of the month from 12:10 to 1:10 p.m.
at the State Health building, 2151 Berkeley
Way. Details: 649-7750.

Higher Alignment; 7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Mondays; fun, informative seminars cre-
ating spiritual partnerships; Feldenkrais
Center, 830 Bancroft Way, Berkeley;
415-641-5337; \$20.

Alta Bates Support Groups - Arthritis
Support Group meets the second Tues-
day of every month; 1 - 2:30 p.m.; 204-
4503. Call for additional special events.

Overeaters Anonymous, a 12-step
program providing free aid for those
with eating problems, meets in Berkeley
every Saturday at 8:30 a.m. (newcom-
ers at 8 a.m.) at St. John's Church,
2727 College Ave. and in Richmond
every Thursday at 7 p.m. at Kaiser Hos-
pital, 901 Nevin (take Elevator C to the
third floor). For further information, call
273-9292.

TOPS; 3:30 a.m., Mondays; Take
Pounds Off Sensibly, Albany Chapter
meets at 880 Stannage St. at Marin;
233-2948 or 926-5855.

Alta Bates Rehabilitation Center and
East Bay Neurology sponsors a free
monthly stroke support group. No ad-
vance reservations are required, drop-in
anytime. The group meets the first Tues-
day of each month from 4 p.m. to 5
p.m. in the Maffly Auditorium on Herrick
Campus, 2001 Dwight way, Berkeley.
Details: 204-4503.

The New Century Chamber Orchest-
ra celebrates a baroque Christmas
Thursday through Sunday, Dec. 19-22
in Berkeley, Menlo Park, San Francisco,
and San Rafael. Music Director Krista
Bennion Feeney will lead the 22-mem-
ber orchestra in a selection of uplifting
music from the Baroque period. Individ-
ual and season tickets can be pur-
chased through City Box office at 415-
392-4400 for Berkeley, Menlo Park and
San Francisco performances and
through the Marin JCC Box Office at
415-479-2000 for the San Rafael per-
formance. Single ticket prices are \$35 and
\$27.50. For more information, call the
NCCO at 415-357-1111 or visit the Web
site at www.ncco.org.

The YWCA offers free orientations
every Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. of its Turn-
ing Point Career Center, 2600 Bancroft
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Speak Smart! Join Beijing Express
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2068 Center St. For additional infor-
mation call 549-9671.

Toastmasters Meeting: Stand up
and say what you mean. Come practice

Music

Chamber Music Sundae presents
San Francisco Symphony Musicians
and Friends at 3:15 p.m. Feb. 9, at the
St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727
College Ave. The concert includes the
Mozart Piano Quartet in G minor,
Shostakovich's String Quartet #15 and
the second Brindl Concertino for solo
cello and strings. Tickets at the door:
\$18, students and seniors \$7. For more
information, call 415-584-5846.

Berkeley High School musicians
present their third annual chamber mu-
sic concert at 7 p.m. Feb. 13, at the
Berkeley Public Library's North Branch,
1170 The Alameda, at Hopkins. Under
the direction of Karen Wells, the teen
musicians will present works by Gar-
shwin, Dvorak, Mozart and Haydn. This
free program is open to all ages. For
questions and accessibility information,
call 510-648-6121, or visit the Web site
at www.infopeople.org/bpl.

"Sacred and Profane," a chamber
chorus directed by Eduardo
Mendelievich presents "Trotz!" at 8 p.m.
Feb. 8, at St. Ambrose Church, 1145
Gilman at Cornell, and 2:30 p.m. Feb. 9,
at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, 16th
Street at Dolores, San Francisco.
Wheelchair accessible; call ahead. Tick-
ets are \$15 general \$12 seniors and stu-
dents at the door, and \$13 general, \$10
seniors/students and in advance by
mail. For ticket and concert information,
call 510-524-3611.

The Crowden School in Berkeley
presents clarinetist Bruce Foster, cellist
Dawn Foster-Dudson, and pianist Miles
Graber at 8 p.m. Feb. 7 and 8 at Sher-
man Club, 2135 Broadway, Oakland.
Admission: \$12 adults and \$8 for stu-
dents and senior citizens. Tickets may
be purchased at the door. For more in-
formation, call 925-209-4886.

Trinity Chamber Concerts series be-
gins at 8 p.m. Feb. 8, with the Barbary
Coast Guitar Duo: Michael Walsh and
Florante Angjar, at Trinity Chapel, 2320
Dana St. Enjoy hard-driven Spanish fan-
dango, a stately moment of a pavan or
the music of the Beatles. Admission:
\$12 general and \$8 for students, se-
niors, or handicapped. No one will be
turned away for lack of the suggested
donation. Call 510-549-3864 for more
details about the series.

Cal Performances presents pianist
Richard Goode, part of the Dr. A. Jess
Shenson Rectal Series, at 3 p.m. Feb.
9, in UC Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall. The
performance features selections from
"My Lady Nevill's Book" by William
Byrd; Mozart's Sonata in A minor, K.
310; Beethoven's Piano Sonata No. 30
in E major, Op. 109; and Debussy's
"Sirene dans Grenade" and Four Pre-
ludes. Impromptu No. 3 in G-flat major,
and more. Tickets: \$30, \$40 and \$52.
Call 510-642-9988 or visit on-line at
www.calperfs.berkeley.edu and at the
door.

San Francisco Chamber Orchestra
performs two concertos for flute and
harp at 8 p.m. Feb. 8, at the Julia Mor-
gan Center for the Arts, 2640 College
Ave. The Program includes the world
premiere of a brand new piece by Chi-
nese composer Yang Qing for Dizi (Chi-
nese bamboo flute) and Konghou (Chi-
nese harp), and an old favorite by
Mozart, his Concerto for Flute and Harp,
K. 299. Tickets: \$24 adults; \$12 stu-
dents; \$50 preferred seating. For more
information, call 925-978-1300.

Duckan Distones, featuring Donald
Bailey on piano, vocals, harmonica, Isa-
iah Dixon, Acoustic Bass, Michael Lank-
ford, Drums and Larry Giustino on Fret-
less Gibson L-4, perform every Saturday
night from 10 to 11 p.m. at Anna's
Place, 1801 University at Grant. All ages
welcome.

Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo Ave., pre-
sents Grateful Dead DJ night with Dig-
ital Dave and Jazz Z.D. on Thursday
nights from 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. Tickets
are \$4. Call 594-1400 for additional in-
formation.

Friday Night Folk Dancing: 8 p.m. -
11 p.m.; no partners necessary for line
dances taught from Rumania, Bulgaria,
Israel, Turkey, Near East and other
lands each Friday from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.,
followed by request dances from 9 p.m.
to 11 p.m. No experience necessary -
all ages welcome. Albany YMCA, 901
Kains Ave.; \$4; call 528-1542.

Outdoors

The UC Berkeley Botanical Garden,
200 Centennial Drive, Strawberry

Canyon, offers a free sick plant clinic on
the first Saturday of every month from 9
a.m. to noon. Dr. Raabe will diagnose.
Details: 643-2755.

Learn to feed and care for orphaned
baby birds: house sparrows, starlings
and pigeons are introduced species
that are not afforded care by rehabilita-
tion groups. You can make an important
contribution in returning these species
to the wild life they deserve to have.
Free training and some supplies. Call
Myrna 531-3042 or Lelia 655-3911.

Turning Point at the YWCA, 2600
Bancroft Way, offers "Scribble Time," a
technique that helps participants under-
stand themselves and find focus. The
group meets on Tuesdays by appoint-
ment and is free to YWCA members.
Call 848-6370 for additional information,
leave a message for Anne Levine.

East Bay Regional Park Botanical
Garden Tilden Park, presents regular
tours, seven days a week. Week days
8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays, and Sun-
days 2 p.m. Special tours by appoint-
ment. Call 841-8732. For a schedule of
upcoming classes call 925-820-1021.

Support

National Alliance for the Mentally
Ill-East Bay Chapter holds its next
monthly family support group meeting
from 7 to 8:45 p.m. Feb. 12, at the
Claremont Branch Berkeley Library at
the southwest corner of Ashby and
Benvenue, one block west of College
Avenue. Meetings are free and offer
family members a chance to take with
others who have a mentally ill relative in
order to share information and get emo-
tional support. Details: 510-524-1250.

The Sacred Voice, a cancer support
group, led by Shira Stone MFT, uses the
tones in the voice to induce states that
are beyond words. Participants join
voices with others to bring harmony and
balance the body, quietness to the
mind, integration of feelings, and an ex-
perience of connection to the Source of
all healing. This free group meets
weekly from 10:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. at
2951 Derby, Redwood Gardens, in
Berkeley. Pre-register with Shira at 510-
843-1677.

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Man dies after being hit by BART

STAFF REPORT

EL CERRITO — For the second time in three days, a BART train struck and killed somebody walking along the tracks late at night in West County.

About 11 p.m. Tuesday, BART police received a call from a bicyclist who was riding along a trail beneath the El Cerrito Plaza station when he heard a thump as a train passed on the elevated

track above.

A moment later, he saw a body land behind a nearby grocery store.

Authorities are investigating what happened, BART police Lt. Pam Cherry said. They found the body of a 63-year-old man at the scene.

Police did not identify the man Wednesday because his family had not been notified.

Cerrito

FROM PAGE A1

other redevelopment projects along San Pablo Avenue.

Less funding will be available if the state decides to take back money it has given the city's redevelopment agency or to decrease the \$600,000 deposited annually into the redevelopment agency fund.

"We have to take into account the risk that we might not have the money we think we're going to have," Trevino said. "It might mean that we have a lot of projects we can't do because we don't have a lot of money."

However, Trevino added, the agency could also raise \$13 million to \$14 million by issuing bonds that it would pay off later.

After vocal support from many residents and a successful open house at the theater, the re-

development agency purchased the Cerrito Theater last June for more than \$500,000. At that time, residents were lobbying the redevelopment agency to restore the 1930s movie house so the city could have a cultural center and landmark.

In part to sustain interest in the theater, the agency agreed Monday to collaborate with local performers Circus Chimera to put on events this summer that could raise an additional \$40,000.

Meanwhile, the city is working on traffic and hazardous materials studies for the theater.

City officials were happy with Monday's theater update.

"I'm very excited about this project," said agency chair Janet Abelson. "It seems like it's taken some time getting to this point."

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or at alopez1@cctimes.com.

Pit bulls

FROM PAGE A1

and they're not for the faint of heart. But in the hands of an experienced owner, you couldn't ask for a nicer pet."

That's why Bad Rap won't let just anyone adopt one of their "bully dogs." Would-be adopters must go through a rigorous screening first.

They must be at least 21 years old, own their own home (or have their landlord's written permission), demonstrate that they understand the challenges of the breed, supply references who can vouch for their character, have the agreement of everyone in their household, and live in the Bay Area, so Bad Rap can do follow-up home checks.

Finally, they must have no other pit bulls of the same sex in the home. "That's just asking for trouble," Reynolds says.

Paul passed all these tests with flying colors, and she was allowed to adopt Bosco. They live in Richmond with Patti's other dog, Zodi, a golden retriever/shepherd mix, and a feisty cat named Pepper who takes no guff from either of the dogs.

On Saturday, she and Bosco were joined by seven other pit bulls and their owners, all learning how to become good canine citizens.

Two of the best students were Maya, a black pit bull puppy, and Polka Bean, a white pit bull with a Spuds McKenzie-like black patch around his right eye.

Maya and Polka Bean were cellmates at the Pinole shelter; and, like Bosco, they were rescued just hours before they were scheduled to be put to death.

This was the first time they had seen each other since they were adopted separately two months ago, and they were beside themselves with joy. Maya was literally jumping up and down in her excitement.

"Poor Maya was found with 15 other dogs in somebody's back yard," says her owner, Kate Laux of Oakland. "She was a mess. She was starving and covered with mange. Somehow, she had stuck her right front leg through the collar, and her skin had grown over the collar. It had to be surgically removed. And now look at her: Have you ever see a more loving animal?"

Also in the class was a puppy named Venus, along with her owner, Vicki Chardak of Berkeley, and Chardak's 12-year-old daughter,

ter, Rosey. Venus, too, was rescued on the day she was scheduled to die. Now she lives happily with in the Chardak home, along with Maxie the Dachshund, Cricket the fox terrier, and Jing Mei the cat.

"Her favorite activity is stealing Rosey's stuffed animals and depositing them in my son Ben's room," Chardak says. "I shut the door to his room, so now she's depositing them in my room."

Basic training

The dogs spent the class learning the meaning of "Come," "Leave it," and "Look." They were taught to focus on their owners and ignore the distraction of the other dogs and some strategically placed dog biscuits. Venus and Polka Bean got A's. Maya got a B-plus.

And Bosco? He just couldn't resist all those tempting hands to lick. "He's just a big, goofy guy," Paul said. "Not a mean bone in his body, but we'll have to work on his concentration. He's so friendly, he often tries to follow other people out of the dog park."

"This isn't really an obedience class," said the instructor, Amber Niwold of Oakland. "We're not training them for obedience competitions. We just want to socialize them to be good citizens, and to educate their humans to be responsible dog owners."

Bad Rap was formed three years ago, although some members have been rescuing pit bulls on their own for 15 years. They hold socialization classes at the Berkeley Animal Shelter every Saturday morning.

More dogs are being rescued all the time, and Bad Rap is always on the lookout for new owners. If you're interested in adopting, or if you want help socializing your own pit bull, call Bad Rap at 510-869-5919 or log on to their Web site: www.badrap.org.

"We'll stay in contact with you for the life of your pet," Reynolds says. "It's a lot of work to properly raise a pit bull, but it's worth every minute. These dogs are absolute sweethearts."

Robberies

FROM PAGE A1

"It's just another example of why you shouldn't rob in Albany, I guess," said Albany Police Lt. Mike McQuiston. "We're pretty proud of that."

What was unusual, police said, was that there were three armed robberies in addition to that attempted armed robbery late last month in Albany, police said. On Jan. 24, there were two armed robberies within 10 minutes of each other around 7:30 p.m.: one on the BART path and one on Adams Street.

Police later arrested a juvenile after the BART-path victim told

PROTECTING YOURSELF

Armed and strong-arm robberies are rare in Albany but they do happen and police said there are ways people can protect themselves: Don't carry large sums of cash; don't fight back, and be aware of your surroundings, especially at night.

"Assume all people are armed and give them what they want," said Albany Police Lt. Bill Palmieri. "Don't risk your life for material possessions."

officers she had seen her robber on Garfield Avenue.

One of the juvenile's alibis

didn't hold up and police found a blue steel revolver similar to the weapon victims described in the robberies during a search of his home.

In another case, a victim was sleeping in his car on Masonic Avenue and Dartmouth Street when a man put a knife to his throat and demanded money. The victim managed to get away and the case is still being investigated, Palmieri said.

"It's not unusual to have a series," Palmieri said. He said he thought the sluggish economy could cause a slight rise like this.

The national average for solving armed robberies and strong-arm robberies (those using bodily force) is 14 percent. In 2000,

Albany solved 60 percent of crimes in town; in 2001, 62 percent; and in 2002, 63 percent. There were 40 armed-arm robberies in Albany. Most perpetrators came from outside the city.

Palmieri said he was "fairly happy that police the juvenile suspect, admitting the two robberies as well as the man who

"I feel really good about the patrol and investigation (departments) and their apprehend two dangerous suspects," Palmieri said.

Reach Alan Lopez at 3578 or at alopez1@cctimes.com.

Donors

FROM PAGE A1

The drive will be held from 3 to 7 p.m. at Alta Bates Hospital, 2450 Ashby Ave., conference room No. 2. People who want to donate their marrow will get a blood test and be placed in the National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP), a bank of about five million potential donors.

The need is especially great for minorities to join the NMDP, according to Jerry Quintana, the American Red Cross/NMDP recruiter. Ninety percent of whites find bone marrow matches through the NMDP, but only 60 to 65 percent of minorities do. For Asians, there's just a 30 percent chance and the chances are

even less for Native Americans.

Sanchez is Irish and Hispanic. "It's kind of like a miracle situation, but we do find matches," Quintana said. "And once we find a match, we call that person on the telephone and go through the process of education and information."

Sanchez was successfully treated for leukemia with chemotherapy in early 2002 but landed in the hospital again in December after the leukemia came back.

Each time Sanchez underwent chemotherapy he had to limit the time spent with friends and family, and was limited to eating only pasteurized food, as his immune system was weakened.

Being isolated for a month while trying to keep his mind ac-

tive by sending e-mails, watching movies and even coloring with markers, has been the worst part of being sick, he said.

"It's a big strain, stress-wise, because you want to see people and can't always see them," he said. "And a lot of friends are busy and a lot of them have a hard time seeing you."

The leukemia is in a controlled remission, meaning there are few leukemia cells in the body's system, as a result of the treatment. Sanchez feels healthy now and has resumed his classes at the California Culinary Academy in San Francisco.

At John's side has been his mother, Becca, and her friend and business partner Jackie Simon, both of whom collaborated with Quintana to organize the

bone marrow drive.

The impetus for Sanchez to help John Sanchez, said, but she hopes many people as possible.

"It's about John's raising awareness," she said, who owns the Treasures in Berkeley with Becca.

John Sanchez said to find a donor match to 21st birthday on Feb. 21 would allow him to stay at Children's Hospital.

"We wouldn't have money for them to have a marrow transplant (at Hospital)," he said.

Reach Alan Lopez at 3578 or at alopez1@cctimes.com.

Walden

FROM PAGE A1

sometimes it's a compulsion," Walden said with a laugh.

Walden was born and raised in Detroit, graduated from the University of Michigan with a degree in economics and in 1990 was living in Kentucky for \$75 a month rent on several acres of land when she and her future husband moved to the Bay Area

so Jonathan Walden could attend graduate school at UC Berkeley.

The two got married 2½ years later, moved to University Village and Miriam Walden fell in love with Albany's close-knit, diverse and pedestrian-friendly community.

After moving to Albany in 1992, she started running a loan fund for women who own their own businesses. Today she is teaching economics for community activists at Urban Habitat,

an organization that promotes social equality and environmental justice.

Now she puts in long hours as president of the school board, learning the ropes of her position as she focuses on her goals for the district. She's also taking care of her 3- and 8-year-old sons.

On the side she is volunteering to finish work she began with the nonprofit Just Economics, designing a curriculum to teach

homework workers — barely more than the wage — how to understand industry so they can as an organized union. A perfect example, she said, is the work she is dedicating.

"Information is Walden said, "so that's the key."

Reach Alan Lopez at 3578 or at alopez1@cctimes.com.

ALBANY CHAMBER NOTES

By James Carter

TWO DOZEN PEOPLE honored the memory of Dario Meniketti on Feb. 2, by following the example he set on a daily basis before his passing Dec. 5 — they cleaned up our city.

Before setting out beneath a clear blue sky, those who met at the Albany Chamber of Commerce on Sunday morning shared memories of Dario, who touched the lives of many people in our town.

Five teams of volunteers scoured the streets for trash and debris, and removed graffiti.

Long-time community activist and volunteer Ruth Meniketti was there, joined by Mayor Jewel Okawachi, Councilman Allan Maris, City Administrator Beth Pollard, Citizen of the Year Marsha Skinner, and former Chamber President and Lion's Club Leader Bill Johnson.

Chamber Board of Directors members Elisabeth Bell, Roseanne Pontes and Dana Milner also gave up their Sunday to remember Dario and put a polish on our town.

Five members of Alameda

County Supervisor Keith Carson's staff also worked hard that day, including Rodney Brooks, Lara Bice, Aisha Brown, Danielle Pacifico-Cohan and Mina Sanchez.

Thanks also to Christina Van Horn, Kim Linden, Susan Yeaman, Larry Fitzsimons, Suzanne Konrad and Dante Placido. These are the types of folks that make Albany such a wonderful place to live.

GET REAL: You see, Albany is much more than just a lovely little town — it is a community.

Come to Solano and San Pablo Avenues and see for yourself. This weekend, get away from that television set, set yourself free from the faade of parking lot malls, and go somewhere real — a place where the sun shines at just the right angle, where merchants and restaurateurs are happy to see you, and everyone will give you the time of day ...

POST TIME: There are still tickets available for Albany Day at the Races, Saturday,

Feb. 22, beginning at noon at Golden Gate Fields.

Now, there are those who disapprove of horse racing. As one respected local official once said, they would "not be disappointed to see Golden Gate Fields slip into the Bay."

Everyone is entitled to an opinion, of course, and we still live in a free country where differing views are respected.

Yet if you have never been to Golden Gate Fields, this is a wonderful opportunity for you to see it. We will have a special section for Albanians, close to a food- and wine-tasting area sponsored by a Bay Area radio station that will donate proceeds to fight leukemia.

Of course there are those who oppose the consumption of alcohol, and others avoid many types of food for personal, moral, and religious reasons. (I oppose near-beer. I believe it is an abomination, immoral, and that we should ban its manufacture and consumption.)

As far as horse racing, I must confess, I am a fan of a gambler. But if you come to Golden Gate Fields on Feb. 22, you'll be amazed at the geous it is. The track is a lovely lakes and flowers and grass. And the horses are incredible to watch beautiful creatures that around the track, bounding the earth, gleaming in the sun, then there are the jockeys their resplendent jockey atop these magnificent encouraging them, and them, the two of them. It is a sporting event, a pageant, a sight to behold. For free tickets to Albany Day at the Races, call 1771.

James Carter is executive director of the Albany Chamber of Commerce. Reach him at banychamber@bigglobe.com or 510-525-1771.

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Real Estate & Home

ing supplement to The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Montclair, The Piedmonter

Friday, February 7, 2003

Section B

Can you imagine living in a water tower?

and see just how life could be in this unusual setting

UNUSUAL PROPERTIES
did a water tower and up side of Berkeley's historic Fourth Street de- with Well. In the mid-'80s, workers worked with the state the Delaware Historical Association, located and moved a va- quique historical buildings

ONE OF A KIND

te and refashioned the in- built condominium and retail use.

ching for an icon of sorts to anchor the project, the ed a genuine 1890s water tower in the back- home on nearby Sixth

moved the tower into the district and gave it the 1805 Fifth St. The tower is empty with no interior ments from the time the was completed in 1987 1995 when Majia Soder-

tted it.

decided she could trans-

tower into a unique living

space. She worked with a local architect to complete her vision. The tower's original interior made use of recycled materials and a

variety of elements from diverse sources.

See TOWER, Page B4



DENNIS EVANSKY

Real Estate Spotlight:

Art Deco villa has hillside Oakland setting



THIS FABULOUS 1941 STREAMLINED ART DECO HOME at 6079 Colton Boulevard in Oakland has a large level yard and commands a panoramic bay view. Situated on a butte near Snake Boulevard, the rounded facade with encircling balcony resembles a ship sailing through the East Bay Hills. The elegant three-level residence was designed and built for his family's occupancy by Styles Soderstrand, an engineer who also worked on the Bay Bridge. Original deco molding frames the rooms of the main floor. A stunning view of the bay encompasses the picture windows of the living room which also has glass doors leading to the mahogany-decked balcony. To the left of the foyer a graceful stairway with curved iron railing ascends upward with an illuminated art alcove on the landing. Period chandeliers and lamps abound. On the lower level a spacious recreation room with wet bar has French doors opening to the back garden. The current owner has painstakingly preserved the deco architecture while retrofitting the building and adding modern amenities including a new kitchen with stainless-steel appliances, new master bedroom and bath with Jacuzzi, new electrical, plumbing and heating systems, and wiring for phone, cable and Internet in all rooms. The end result is a warm and private four-bedroom, four-bath home, with plenty of room to play in the spacious decks and yards. Price: \$898,000.

Contact Nicolette Bot at 510-531-7000, Wells and Bennett, Oakland office. Open Sundays from 1 - 4 p.m. or view online at www.botnik.com/property.html.

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6959 CHURING ROAD, OAKLAND
The Craftsman Villa. Pano views, masterful design, materials, finishes. Master kitchen, wine cellar, office. 4 BD/4.5BA.
Heidi Kearsley
510-7000 x248 or 339-9780
\$1,725,000



6959 CHURING ROAD, OAKLAND
Smashing new contemporary home w/distinctive finishes. Grand sized rooms, bold colors. 4BD/3.5BA plus huge rumpus. Ideal au-pair or in-law set up.
Heidi Kearsley
531-7000 x295
\$1,200,000



7172 NORFOLK ROAD, OAKLAND
Secluded location in Claremont Hills. Built in 2000 by August Co., 4BD/2.5BA, family room, Mt. Tam and Bay views.
Chris Christensen
531-7000 x242 or 485-7242
\$999,000



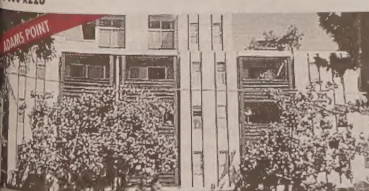
6079 COLTON BLVD., OAKLAND
Stunning family home, totally renovated and retrofitted. 4BD/4BA, rec room, 3-bath kitchen, wine cellar, office. 4 BD/4.5BA. One of a kind hillside city views, surrounded by large level yard. One of a kind hillside city views, surrounded by large level yard. One of a kind hillside city views, surrounded by large level yard.
Heidi Kearsley
510-7000 x228
\$898,000



266-270 SANTA ROSA, OAKLAND
Great location! This lovely triplex would be perfect for an owner occupant or investor. Large upstairs is ready to move into with fresh paint, new carpets & beautiful hardwood floors. SBD. Sunny & bright!
Claire Svitek
531-7000 x274
\$769,000



4321 DETROIT AVENUE, OAKLAND
Desirable Redwood Heights home. 3BD/2BA, rumpus room, huge garage, lots of storage, nice yard, sunny and bright!
Jaya Bhimani
531-7000 x289 or 485-7289
\$589,000



6079 COLTON BLVD., OAKLAND
Stunning family home, totally renovated and retrofitted. 4BD/4BA, rec room, 3-bath kitchen, wine cellar, office. 4 BD/4.5BA. One of a kind hillside city views, surrounded by large level yard. One of a kind hillside city views, surrounded by large level yard. One of a kind hillside city views, surrounded by large level yard.
Heidi Kearsley
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510-7000 x295 or 485-7295
\$449,000

UPPER LEVEL, EASILY BUILDABLE LOT in scenic & private N. Berkeley neighborhood. Close to U.C. Berkeley and Tilden Park. South Bay views.
Heidi Kearsley
510-7000 x246
\$250,000

AT MONTCLAIR NEIGHBORHOOD
Buildable upslope lot in finished neighborhood. Soil and survey included.
Heidi Kearsley
510-7000 x251 or 485-7251
\$110,000

NOW...BUILD LATER!
Your dream home(s) in this quiet & serene nighborhood! 2 upslope, side-by-side lots off Shepherd Cyn Rd. (across from 6565 Girvin Dr.). Buy one or both!
Heidi Kearsley
510-7000 x204
\$50,000 & \$60,000

1451 LEIMERT BLVD., OAKLAND
531-7000

BY APPOINTMENT



OLD WORLD
1885 Alameda Victorian. Old World Charm w/modern conveniences. 5+BD/4BA, two-story layout, separate entrance on lower level. Walking distance to Park Blvd, shops & restaurants.
Frank Hennefer
531-7000 x235 or 485-7235
\$660,000



BIG BAY VIEW HOME
Contemporary three bedroom, two and one half bath home. Move-in condition, quick commute to San Francisco.
Doris Taboloff
531-7000 x265
\$542,000



INVITING CRAFTSMAN BUNGALOW
In the same family for 84 years. Mellow and engaging three bedrooms with original wood and period details. Formal dining room, breakfast room.
Stan Hammond
531-7000 x246
\$495,000

NORTH OAKLAND - 4 UNITS
Two separate duplexes on large lot. One building has duplex w/large 2BD units. Both w/hardwood floors, modern kitchens, big LR's. Other duplex has spacious 1BD with 1 unit tastefully renovated & full bsmt.
Frank Hennefer
531-7000 x235 or 485-7235
\$595,000

HOME PLUS DUPLEX
Two plus bedroom house w/hdwd. floors, breakfast nook & full bsmt. Duplex has 2+BD unit & 2BD unit. Mixed w/hdwd. floors. Laundry, fireplace, LR's & eat-in kitchens.
Frank Hennefer
531-7000 x235 or 654-6461
\$595,000

WEST OAKLAND DUPLEX
Both units are three bedrooms, one vacant. Near Emeryville. Upgraded systems.
Anne Bruff
531-7006 x283
\$349,000

SWEET & SUNNY
Spacious corner unit with great floor plan, 2BD/1BA with new carpets and paint in a great location. Short stroll to Lake Merritt.
Joy Bryden
531-7000 x218
\$279,500

73 LAS MORADA CIRCLE
Fabulous 947 sq. ft. two bedroom, two bath condo. New hardwood, refrigerator, range, and paint. Garage, pool, spa.
Pedram Karbassi
531-7000 x290 or 485-7290
\$209,900

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Reaching out with a helping hand

■ Red Oak increases its grants to local charities

RED OAK REALTY

In a year when corporate giving is down, Red Oak Opportunity Foundation (ROOF) has raised a record-breaking \$52,825, which it awarded to local charities.

This year 28 charities were honored at the annual ROOF Award Ceremony Jan. 24 at Red Oak's Pleasant Valley Road office in Oakland.

Red Oak Realty has been giving monies to local charities since 1985. ROOF, originally funded by Red Oak Realty agent commissions, was born out of a desire to give to the community. Today, ROOF contributions come from the agents and are supplemented by matching donations from the company, clients and friends. Last year over \$40,000 in grants were awarded to 19 local groups.

In the past 12 years, ROOF has donated over \$250,000 to deserving local homeless and educational organizations that do not receive significant funding from other sources.

The Award Ceremony began five years ago to publicly honor the grant recipients and provide a forum to network with other non-profit organizations.

ROOF has 5013c, non-profit charitable status, making all donations tax deductible. A

committee appointed by the board of directors, comprised of agents and owners, makes recommendations for the distribution of grants. If your organization would like to be considered for a ROOF award or to make a contribution, please contact Peter Campbell at 510-280-2134.

Red Oak Realty has been providing real estate services to East Bay residents for over 27 years and is still owned and operated by three of its original founders.

For many years the company, has been named by The San Francisco Business Times as one of the "Most Productive 25 Real Estate Companies" in the Greater Bay Area.

In 2000, readers of the Hills Newspaper Group voted Red Oak Realty the "Best Real Estate Company" in the East Bay.

The company serves the communities of Oakland, Piedmont, Berkeley, Kensington, Albany, El Cerrito and Richmond. For more information on Red Oak Realty and ROOF, please visit the Web site at www.redoakrealty.com

Grant recipients

- Albany Education Foundation
- Albany Pre-School
- Bay Area Rescue Mission
- Berkeley Boosters (Police Activities)
- Berkeley Ecumenical Chaplaincy
- Berkeley Public Education Foundation
- Berkeley Albany YMCA — Outsiders Program
- Berkeley Food and Housing Project
- Berkeley High School — College Prep Handbook
- Berkeley High School — Spanish PTSA
- Berkeley Holiday Fund
- Berkeley Public Library — Berkeley Reads
- Berkeley Symphony Orchestra
- Camping Unlimited
- Center for AIDS services
- Center for the Education of the Infant Deaf
- Crisis Support Services Alameda County
- El Cerrito Parent's Coop Preschool
- Garden on Wheels Association
- Greater Richmond Interfaith Program
- Mercy Brown Bag Program
- Marcus Foster Educational Institute
- Oakland Elizabeth House
- Rubicon Programs
- The Education Fund (West Contra Costa County)
- West Coast Children's Center
- Women's Daytime Drop In Center
- Youth Bike Adventures (Trips for Kids)

Taking a look around the East Bay real estate community

News and information for and about the area real estate community and affiliated industries.

FOR THE PUBLIC

Housing Affordability Rises

Historically low mortgage interest rates and rising family income improved housing affordability conditions in the fourth quarter of 2002, according to the National Association of Realtors. NAR President **Cathy Whitley** said low mortgage interest rate have improved housing affordability considerably above historic norms. Housing affordability conditions should remain stable in the first half of 2003. In higher cost areas, such as ours entry level buyers often pool their resources, or start out in a more affordable condo.

Home Buying 101

Attend a free first time homebuyer's workshop. Senior Loan Consultant **Stan Johnson** of First Security Loans presents "Home Buying 101," a fast paced session for those interested in learning the ins and outs of home buying. A variety of topics are covered, including how to buy for no money down and no out of pocket closing costs. The workshop is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 15. To register call the 101 Hotline at 510-614-2436.

United We Stand

The Women's Council of Realtors East Bay Chapter has planned a mini-trade show for women interested in the process of home buying. "United We Stand-Homeownership for Women" will take place from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, March 22. The show is held at the Network Coliseum in Oakland. Learn about home buying, credit lending and selecting a real estate professional. Children's activities are also included. For additional information contact **Monique Washington** at 510-452-8280.

Self Defense at Inform

The public is always welcome at the Inform Meeting. The Inform is sponsored by the Alameda Association of Realtors. The next meeting begins at 8:30 a.m., Tuesday, Feb. 11. The location is the Garden Isle Community Center on Melrose Avenue in Alameda. The topic is "Self Defense." Learn how to protect yourself and stay safe. Agents are encouraged to bring information on new listings for presentation to the group. For more information contact **Remy Boyd** of AAR at 510-523-7229.

Tax Help

The self-employed and independent contractors learn how to take every business deduction, reduce your chance of audit and use new tax laws to save taxes. Attend "Basic Tax and Record Keeping Information for Self-Employed People" on Sunday, Feb. 16, in Montclair. The class is taught by Montclair tax professional **Jan Zobel EA**. For more information call EastHill Press at 510-530-5474.

GOV AT OAR

The California Association of Realtors and the Oakland Association of Realtors present "Your Guide To The CAR Residential Purchase Agreement". **Gov Hutchinson**, Assistant General Counsel of CAR is the instructor. The location is the OAR Auditorium in Oakland. This is an optional 3-hour Continuing Education Credit course. Mark your calendars for Friday, Feb. 28. Registration information is available through OAR at 510-836-3000.

TOUR DAY

Oakland Realtors are invited to join Oakland affiliates at the monthly Tour Day Breakfast. The breakfast is at 8:45, on Thursday, Feb. 27, at the OAR Building. This month's speaker is David Levin, Attorney at Law. The topic is "Re-thinking estate planning in an era of 'Through the Roof' property values". Bring marketing flyers and an appetite. Be a winner of one of many raffle prizes. Network more - sell more. For questions and parking information call **Ingrid Westgard** of North American Title at 510-339-2380 or **Ramadan Aziz** of First American Title at 510-339-1230.

RE/MAX CONVENTION

The 2003 RE/Max International 30th Anniversary Convention will be held in Las Vegas, March 3-6. The MGM grand is convention headquarters. Planned events are a golf tournament, the "Night of the



BOBBIE REED

Stars" awards presentation, educational programs and speakers. More information is available by calling RE/MAX at 303-770-5531.

INVEST IN YOUR

Learn how your works. All area associations their members to become Create new businesses and help your associates positive results. Vol. of the many community assistance and have your local association formation.

WHO'S ON FIRST

■ Here comes the columnist just heard wedding. **Emma Beck** ality in Oakland now with **Harvey Flynn**. A tember garden wedding was the Associated Real Brokers president for 2002. Congratulations Emma and most happiness.

■ Loan Officer **Chun** is making a move. Hing from the Diabla Group's San Ramon, Oakland Furing Group now hang his hat at the Grand Avenue in Oakland welcome to Oakland and at 510-874-4210.

WHAT'S UP DOCK

Someone new at you. Something special you doing? Changing location on a seminar? Let me to let the world know. deadline is two weeks event.

Send an email bierleid@mindspring.com info to me at 510-441-7190.

Keeping up with today's technology

■ Internet buyers well informed and more satisfied

BY SCOTT THOMPSON

CORRESPONDENT

Technology is ever present in our lives. More and more people are turning to the Internet to do their pre-purchase homework about buying or selling real estate. The Internet has become real estate's backbone for one of consumer's strongest desires: immediate, real-time information.

Understanding this, the California Association of Realtors conducted a survey of buyers who use the Internet as a part of their home buying process (Internet buyers), and those that do not (traditional buyers). Here are some key findings:

■ Internet buyers tended to have a more positive and satisfying homebuying experience than traditional buyers.

■ Internet buyers spent more time investigating and researching the market before contacting a real estate agent, but spent significantly less time working with

Internet buyers tended to have a more positive and satisfying homebuying experience than traditional buyers.

an agent compared to traditional buyers.

■ After contacting a real estate agent, traditional buyers spent 6.6 weeks to buy a home, more than three times the 2 weeks spent by Internet buyers. Similarly, while traditional buyers went to see an average of 15.2 homes, Internet buyers saw 7.5 homes.

■ Internet buyers were contacted by their agent more frequently than traditional buyers were, resulting in a higher degree of satisfaction among Internet buyers; 90 percent claimed to be very satisfied with their agent as opposed to 32 percent of traditional buyers.

■ Over half of all Internet buyers reported that the information they received from the Internet was less useful than the detailed information provided by their real estate agent. The findings of this study reflect how Internet buyers

gathered information from the Internet, better understand the homebuying process and available options, thereby demonstrated much satisfaction with the entire homebuying experience, specifically with their real estate agent.

Scott Thompson can be reached at 510-410-2003 or at Scott@ScottThompson.biz

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SOLD • SOLD



11 Kingwood Road, Oakland Hills
RECENTLY SOLD. Spacious three bedroom, two and half contemporary with stunning SF bay view.
Originally offered at \$595,000
Represented the seller



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Real Estate & Home

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HILLS NEWSPAPERS
BERKELEY VOICE / THE JOURNAL / MONTCLAIRION
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JUST LISTED! OPEN SUNDAY FEBRUARY 9, 2-4:30PM
5745 MERRIWOOD DRIVE



\$895,000

This carefully crafted contemporary style home offers four bedrooms, three and a half baths with lovely bay & hill views. Abundant decks and spacious kitchen/family room.



Patricia Scott Winslow
510/338-1315



New Listing in Oakland Hills
Open Sunday February 9, 2-5pm



3824 Columbian Drive

Bright, 2 bedroom, 1 bath bungalow with hardwood floors, formal dining room, eat-in-kitchen, and one car garage with "studio" room. Lots of light and great yard. Cute!

Offered at \$359,000



Vicki Woodhead
SENIOR SALES ASSOCIATE
(510) 338-1334



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pacificunion.com

The GRUBB Co. REALTORS

NEW LISTINGS

4401 Karbord Drive, Rock
OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. A very attractive Tudor in Upper Rockridge featuring a kitchen with cherry wood cabinets, and a with level play area. Three plus bedrooms and one half baths.

Offered at \$749,000

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Oakland	Oakland
\$199,000 424 Orange St., #106, Easy living! 1bd, 1ba condo near 580. Covered balcony off living room. Attached garage. Great investment! Diana 510-814-4718	\$459,000 85 Edgemont OPEN Lovely 3bd, 2.5ba home on 0.25 acre. Easy access to 580. Solar alarm, air purifier. Tere 510-814-4718
\$199,000 Mountain View Ave. Lot with Bay & SF View! Above hwy. 13. Over 1 acre. Janice 510-814-4846	\$690,000 4177 Montgo Fourplex. Charming building upgrades! Great! PENDING 1 two bdr unit, 2 gar parking spaces. Lovely shopping, dining, and transp 510-814-4833
\$225,000 930 Pine St. Single level 1 bedroom, 1 bath, off street parking. Kathy 510-814-4708	\$629,000 5587 Greenridge OPEN SAT & SUN 2-4:00 Eichler home on magnificent 2ba, family room, & arrium on beautiful back yard, windows & lovely views. 510-814-4874
\$229,000 608 Almarza Dr. Contemporary single level 2bd, 1ba home with fireplace and attached garage. Great starter home. Very clean and bright. Trustee Sale. Martha 510-814-4828	\$349,000 1366 34th St. Live-work in loft-style converted Victorian. New foundation. Can be used residential or commercial. Kathy 510-814-4706
\$349,500 5817 Picardy Dr. Just Listed! Classic Tudor home on Oakland's "Christmas Tree Lane." A 3bd, 2ba split level gem needs work but has fine architectural detail. Near Mills College. Steve 510-814-4818	\$349,000 14388 Outrigger 2.5ba townhome. Golf Course. PENDING car garages. Tere 510-814-4833
\$415,000 3707 Virdon Ave. Charming 2+bd, 2ba Spanish Mediterranean with gorgeous views of SF Bay & Mt. Tam. New interior paint and roof. Formal dining room, basement. Donn 510-814-4854	\$399,000 824 Antonia Cul-de-sac location! 4 bdr, 2.5ba, hardwood floors, large patio with patio & grass area. Donn 510-814-4854

an Brunswick named BAR president

year real estate
to lead the
Association of
s

BERKELEY HILLS REALTY
Berkeley Hills Realty agent
Brunswick has been elected
president of the 100-
Berkeley Association of
(BAR). She is currently a
of the California Associa-
and a delegate to Real-
onal Association of Real-
1987-98 she served as a
on the city of
Housing Advising

has been in real estate
30 years, the last seven
Berkeley Hills Realty. She
her sales license in 1974
broker's license in 1979.
librarian, Joan holds
and master's degrees
in literature. She also
master's in library sci-
UC-Berkeley in 1972.
Joan is fluent in German, Yid-
ish and Hebrew.

head of BAR, Joan
serve as a role model
Bay members. She
to get involved: to at-
tend meetings, hone their profes-
sional skills, attend Legislative
sessions on June 4
and donations for the Call-
ing Association of Realtors'
Affordability Fund. CAR
has raised \$20 million over the
years to help underwrite
projects submitted by lo-
cals. It raised \$180,000 for
at its recent quarterly
in San Francisco.

keley's C presents

ing Education Center, a
education organization at
St. in Berkeley (510-525-
has the following courses:
Stable Power Tools for Be-
\$30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. today;
cludes materials.
ing Land," 7-10 p.m.,
\$35.
stalling Windows, Doors
lights," 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat-
7-10.
imating the Cost of Labor
entials," 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat-
7-10.
alpaper Hanging," 9:30
0 p.m. Feb. 16; \$90.
Free Metal Tools and Tech-
7-10 p.m. Feb. 17; \$35.
ing and Evaluating Fixer-
7-10 p.m. Feb. 18; \$35.
to Get Your Permit Ap-
7-10 p.m. Feb. 20; \$35.
hen Cabinet and Counter
on," 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Feb. 22;
\$35.

ow to Avoid Homeowner
res" (Dispute Prevention
ly Resolution), 10 a.m.-5
22; \$75.
hitectural Model Making,"
4:30 p.m. Feb. 23; \$95.
ucco Repair," 9:30 a.m.-
Feb. 23; \$95.

opping for Hardwood
8 p.m. Feb. 25; \$35.
id Your Dream Home for
and Own it Free and Clear
(cash), 6:30-9:30 p.m. Feb.

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4:30 p.m. Feb. 23; \$95.
ucco Repair," 9:30 a.m.-
Feb. 23; \$95.

Don't miss this week's Open Home Guide on B16.

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5800 St. Paul Court, Rockridge
OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. A wonderful Upper Rockridge location with a magnificent level garden. Three bedrooms, two baths and two-car garage. Beautifully maintained home ready for you to move right in.
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1046 ELBERT STREET, OAKLAND SWEET GLENVIEW BUNGALOW

This delightful home boasts pride of ownership and offers character & charm with lovely architectural details throughout. A very bright and pleasant-feeling floor plan allows for cozy entertaining centered around the uniquely appointed, wood burning fireplace. The lightly landscaped backyard features lush flowering shrubs, level lawn area, ornamental fruit trees and a large deck with built-in benches. Full of tranquility & careful design, this home is an adorable example of Craftsman style.



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- Bright living room offers wood burning fireplace with custom mantel.
- Private, landscaped, completely fenced backyard with deck and drip irrigation system. Side yard with planting boxes, perfect for an herb garden.

Asking Price \$485,000
Open Sunday!

Montclair



NEW LISTING!



**231 Avalon Circle
Pittsburg, CA**

This 3Bd/2Ba newer ranch-style home is located in a gated development. It offers sunny rooms, vaulted ceilings and a master suite. Close to BART, shops and eateries. *Priced to sell fast!*

CALL TODAY!

Offered at \$343,999

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417 Florence Avenue, Rockridge

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. A Jewel in the Rough! Located in desirable Upper Rockridge with North Bay views. Spacious three + bedroom, two bath cosmetic fixer awaits creative touch. Level garden, sunroom, garage and more! Photo tour - johnandjudith.com.

Offered at \$649,000

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24 Hour Talking Ads Talk To No Agent • Pre-Recorded Info • Call 1-800-525-3704 & Enter Id#



OPEN SUNDAY

\$559,000 • ROSE OF THE ROSE GARDEN
Amazing mission details are featured in this light-filled bungalow next to the Oakland Rose Garden just seconds from the best of Grand Ave! FREE info 24 hours. 1-800-525-3704 ID#3522.



OPEN SUNDAY

\$429,000 • GREAT OAKMONT FIXER
Huge lot and huge potential, large fenced in yard w/ garden, 3 beds, 1 1/2 baths, 2 car garage plus a patio. Great neighborhood, opportunity knocks! FREE info 24 hours. 1-800-525-3704 ID#4202



PENDING - 304 OFFERS

\$593,000 • EL CERRITO W/PANORAMIC VIEWS
Marvelous city, bridge and bay view home. Two fireplaces, private patios, open floor plan, exposed wood beam ceiling, two car attached garage & Kensington Elementary Schools. FREE info 24 hours. 1-800-525-3704 ID#3311



COMING SOON

\$409,000 • MERRITT TO LAKE
Great starter home on Haddon Hill, just minutes by foot from the Lake. Craftsman details, cozy fireplace, large backyard w/ patio, big kitchen + more! FREE info 24 hours. 1-800-525-3704 ID#4201



COMING SOON

\$449,000 • HADDON HILL FAMILY STYLE HOME
Three bedrooms, level fenced-in backyard, detached 2 car garage, large formal living and dining rooms, fireplace. On a great street, minutes by foot to lake Merritt! FREE info 24 hours. 1-800-525-3704 ID#4203



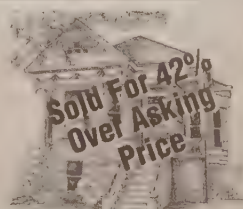
SOLD

\$649,000 • HADDON CRAFTSMAN
Wonderful remodeled home in prestigious Haddon Hill. Large level back yard, gourmet kitchen, separate artist studio, two fireplaces, minutes from Lake Merritt. FREE info 24 hours. 1-800-525-3704 ID#8312



PENDING

\$439,000 • MONTCLAIR RETREAT
Minutes from Montclair Village. Tranquil retreat, cozy living room w/ fireplace, exposed wood beam ceiling, large detached artist studio w/ dark room. FREE info 24 hours. 1-800-525-3704 ID#3331



Sold For 42% Over Asking Price

VICTORIAN DUPLEX
"Dave and Carla sold my house for 42% over the asking price. I would never consider making a real estate decision without them."

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OAKLAND FIREFIGHTER



DAVE & CARLA HIGGINS
Double Your Expectations



FREE QUICK OVER THE PHONE HOME EVALUATION. CALL US AT 510-595-7699



When is a house too weird for Whoopi?

Part one of three
Is it more important for a historic building to be practical at the expense of being beautiful? Or does maintaining the aesthetic quality of an older structure outweigh the need for it to be practical? I believe that this is a false debate, since these two qualities are not necessarily mutually exclusive.

In order to demonstrate this, let's examine some case studies of historic buildings in the East Bay that have had problems with being put to a practical use because of their aesthetic qualities. Let's also look at others that have managed to bridge these two aspects with little or no alteration.

During more than 18 years of working as a real estate agent in the East Bay, I have listed and sold

numerous examples of historic homes that most buyers considered impractical for the needs of a modern American family. Often, famous architects had designed these homes, and they were either official or unofficial historic landmarks in their cities.

My very first listing was a large home and studio built by Bernard Maybeck in 1923 in the Berkeley hills for a musician client. This was really two structures joined together: a large residence connected by a walkway to a music studio.

Like all Maybeck homes, the floor plan was unique; some said eccentric. The home has lots of hidden nooks, odd angles and rooms designed to serve more than one purpose. There were four bedrooms in the residential part of the house,

plus the smallest maid's room I have ever seen. But therein lay the greatest problem with this structure's practical use as a home. Only one of these bedrooms was used solely as a bedroom, and it was a small room on the ground level facing the street, with no privacy.

The other three bedrooms were all used for another purpose in the daytime. The master bedroom doubled as the dining room with a Murphy bed that folded up into the wall. This room had a lovely Tudor-style dining room table and set of Maybeck-designed chairs, which had to be moved before the bed could be pulled out of the wall!

The remaining two bedrooms were equally impractical for any normal family use. One of them doubled as the library, complete with a



MARK WILSON
Owning A Piece of History

reading table and chairs and smaller Murphy bed. The third bedroom was adjacent to the entry hall, and doubled as a sitting room, with a row of windows at eye level with the sidewalk just outside. Needless to say, I had a difficult time trying to get buyers to write an offer on this unusual historic listing.

About five months after I had taken the listing, I got a call from an agent who said she had a "very special" buyer in her car parked outside the house, who wanted to see it right away. The owner insisted the home only be shown by appointment, and that he be present at every showing. So the buyer's agent told me who her client was to assure the seller that she was qualified to purchase such a house: the actress and comedian Whoopi Goldberg.

Whoopi's 12-year-old daughter and a nanny accompanied her. They were looking for a home where they could entertain friends and have out-of-town guests stay. Steven Spielberg had just signed Whoopi to play the leading role in his film of Alice Walker's novel "The Color Purple." So she could certainly have afforded the \$550,000 asking price.

'Honey, All I can say is, this house is too even for me!'

The owner was very excited as he opened the back door to the house to let Whoopi and her entourage into the kitchen.

He had decided to do the showing himself, and to start from the rear of the building and work his way to the front. I was just there to answer questions about the terms of sale (if they came up). So, I decided to just stand back and watch the show.

I observed Whoopi's face carefully as the owner guided us through each room, explaining their unique features. When he got to the dining room, and began pulling down the Murphy bed, I could tell by the bemused expression on Whoopi's face that there was no way in the world she would buy this house.

By the time we got to the entry hall, she had been ready to leave for some time. As she put her hand on the doorknob to leave, the owner decided to ask her a question that I knew would elicit an unwanted response.

"So, Ms. Goldberg," he asked eagerly, "What did you think of the house?"

"Do you really want to know?" she responded with an impish grin. "Well, yes. I guess what I'm asking is could you see yourself living here?"

"Honey," she replied, rolling her eyes and shaking her head, "All I

can say is, this house is too even for me!"

Within the next two weeks, after a price reduction, and from two sets of buyers, a group of Catholic nuns decided to use the building as a convent for eight young nuns. It wasn't near the asking price they wanted to make, but which the landmark probably have rejected.

The other offer came from a chitect, who wanted more extensive renovations. He asked the owner to lower the cost of several of the offer's conditions.

Both these offers were rejected. The house was then offered for one more price reduction. Another architect, who did make any changes and use the house for commercial performances; produced an eccentric building, that a perfect buyer — if there was one — would have to discuss how yet another signed historic Berkeley home was finally sold, after negotiations with preservationists and tasteful changes to features.

Mark A. Wilson can be reached at 510-273-9383 or mwilson@aol.com.

Are you waiting for that elusive 'best' moment?

Number 417 in a series of true experiences in real estate

"What's the market like now?" people ask. "Is it really slow?" So far this year, things seem to be brisk. We haven't seen signs of a turnaround. But who knows? Anything we (or anyone else) says is only a guess.

"But it can't keep going up forever?" we are asked, and agents also ask one another.

For several years now, maybe as long as 10 years, this question has been on the lips of both observers and market participants. Many feel that the market surely must stall soon. Some, especially buyers, frustrated in their inability to purchase what they want, decided to take a rest, to postpone buying until things become more reasonable.

"No point in buying at the top of the market," is what they say. "We'll wait." Sometimes it was sellers who were so worried that they rushed to sell. "The market's going to crash," they told their agents. "I need to get my house sold immediately."

So far, these buyers and sellers have both been wrong. The market in our area went right on selling. It might still be rising, we don't know. And we won't know until it has already occurred, when we can look back and be sure. A year ago prices were lower, the year before, lower still. The wisdom of hindsight being perfect, there are certainly buyers who wish they'd bought before now as well as sellers who see that they sold too soon.

It's a new year and right now, there isn't a lot of inventory but generally, what is available is selling. We're already aware, only barely into February, of multiple offers on houses and of a number selling at prices over asking.

Actually, this is not surprising because they are the first sales of the year. It is frequently the case that the first houses to appear on

the market in a given year attract much attention. Probably this is because some buyers who took time off during the holidays are operating with new resolve. They're determined to buy, and it is that determination that is driving the early-year sales.

Have you noticed that the media offer only two sorts of stories about houses sales? The first is that sales are down. This story appears on and off throughout the year, every year. "Buyer's market" the stories promise.

At the same time, sometimes in a different paper or newscast on the very same day, the headline is: "Home sales up, unprecedented rise in prices."

Both these versions come so frequently, and seem so like the ones that preceded them, that Anet asks, "Are they canned? Does the media re-run them on a pre-set schedule?" It appears that we keep hearing same-old, same-old reportage no matter what is actually occurring in the market-place.

So what to do now? That's really the question. If you were planning to buy, should you buy now, or wait? If you intended to sell, is this a good time?

About all we can tell you is that we are here, all of us, in this place and time, now. Therefore, if your plans are based on reasonable premises, going ahead with them very likely does make sense.

How would you (or anyone) ever know when the best moment for buying or selling would be? The most you could hope for is knowing after that moment occurs, and then it's likely to be too late.

So, it seems to us, that you should review your own reasons for buying or selling. For example, is it your expectation that you'll be staying in a house you buy for awhile? Are you optimistic about having a job? After buying, will



TARPOFF AND TALBERT
True Experiences

you still have enough money to spend on other things you want — vacations, for instance? Will your life be made better by buying?

If you are selling your residence, why are you selling? Do you have another place to live? What will you gain by selling? What will it cost you to sell, relocate, buy again? Have you examined alternatives that may work as well for you such as staying put and remodeling?

If you do conclude that buying or selling is what you intend to do this year — or any year — devote your time and energy to doing so. The more involved you are, the more likely it is that you will accomplish your goal.

This is not a time when buying or selling is passive. These days it is unrealistic to expect, as was true in some times past, to be driven to a few available houses by your agent, walk through them, then choose one you like and buy it. You'll need to be more involved, to get your finances in order, to learn about disclosures, house construction and repairs. And you will need to take time to collaborate with your agent on strategies for getting the house you choose.

Sellers, at least smart ones, do not simply sign a listing agreement and wait for a buyer. They work with their agents to make their houses market ready, have inspections made, think carefully about pricing. And they must know where they will be going next and how and when they'll get there.

Probably by this summer we'll know whether February or March 2003 was an optimum time to buy or sell. Are you jumping in now?

Pat Talbert and Anet Tarpo are residential real estate agents who can be reached at 510-653-2050.

Tower

FROM PAGE B1

A new owner and changing needs have brought the venerable structure to an entirely new level. Majia added a sparkling Euro-style kitchen and redid the bathroom.

The ground floor eat-in kitchen now features a highly efficient design, including a custom fabricated stainless steel sink and a built-in Sub Zero refrigerator. The stove is a Jennair, and nicely hidden within the custom cabinetry is a very handy combination washer-dryer unit.

With plenty of room for a table to sit at, this room somehow manages to feel both cozy and spacious at the same time. Just off the kitchen is the newly designed bath, a most important room that continues the theme of a touch of luxury combined with very carefully designed efficiency.

As intriguing as this first level might be, if you're going to live in a water tower you've eventually got to go up. The solution here is an airy and somewhat playful stairway that is delightful to climb — but don't underestimate the work of designing and building here. With limited space and tapering walls it takes real skill to work out a stairway that is comfortable to use and visually fun to live with.

The work here is subtle but critical to the success of the space, and that brings you to the second floor and a cozy, delight-

ful living room. The original stairway continued from here up to the third floor, but the new owner saw an opportunity for the greater visual interest and space saving features of a spiral stairway, which now leads you to the bedroom.

If — perhaps when you were a kid — you climbed up into a tree house on a warm sunny day, you might remember the feeling of being away from all the cares of the world and just a tiny bit closer to the sky. That feeling is available each time you enter this top floor sanctuary.

A very considerate touch in the bedroom is a small sink ideal for brushing your teeth or a cool, nighttime sip of water. And, if you're the type to do so, you might climb up a short ladder from the bedroom, through a skylight-hatch and onto the deck surrounding the water tank itself.

From here you'll find some wonderful views and some great future possibilities, like a rooftop garden maybe. Sit up here on a warm summer night and you can listen to the nearby Southern Pacific go by.

All of this would be intriguing enough located nearly anywhere, but the water tower finds itself in a most unique spot. Located in the heart of the landscaped condo-

minium grounds that are lovely, mature fig tree up your front door, this home has the bustling activity just nearby Fourth Street and the district.

A few steps down the path, however, and you'll find the delightful mix of real galleries, shops and more make up this vibrant Bay shopping area. A bit more brings you to the beautiful signed new pedestrian spanning I-80, which leads to the newly emerging East park area and the Ben Franklin Park your car in its place.

The greatest danger of tower dwelling — according to the current owner — is the number of new friends you make. It seems that living in a space inspires a sense of adventure and whimsy in most tired old souls. So choose to live here, and prepare yourself for the broad smiles and the happy conversation with much-loved walls.

This unique property, Fifth Street in Berkeley, \$359,500, will be open from 2 to 4 p.m. To learn contact Anita Thede at Properties, 510-526-4343.

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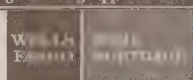
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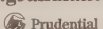
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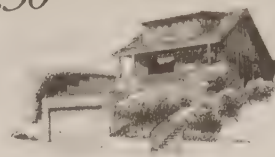
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CROCKER AVENUE **\$2,500,000**
Elegant formal grounds surround this beautiful traditional home. Special features include; large, gracious formal rooms, wonderful original details & expansive level rear garden. Mindy Scott

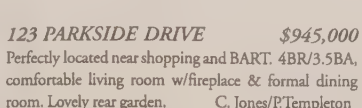


PIEDMONT TRADITIONAL **\$1,850,000**
Elegantly renovated throughout, this gracious traditional home features stylish formal rooms and a spacious kitchen/family room that leads out to the lovely gardens. 4BR/3BA upstairs. Michelle Winchester

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KENSINGTON. Excellent floor plan, views of the Bay & a spectacular great room w/stone fireplace. On a large corner lot. 4+ BR, 3BA, rumpus room, large formal rooms & cook's kitchen. C. Cohn & L. Lombardo



123 PARKSIDE DRIVE **\$945,000**
Perfectly located near shopping and BART. 4BR/3.5BA, comfortable living room w/fireplace & formal dining room. Lovely rear garden. C. Jones/P.Templeton



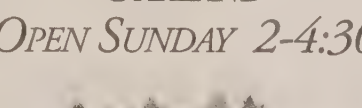
1111 SHATTUCK AVENUE **\$629,000**
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751 SPRUCE STREET **\$689,000**
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6161 HARBORD DRIVE **\$1,149,000**
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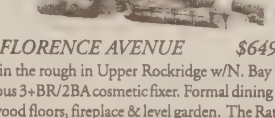
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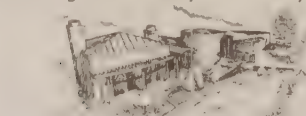
5932 CONTRA COSTA ROAD **\$1,476,000**
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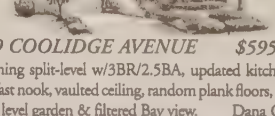
4109 COOLIDGE AVENUE **\$595,000**
Charming split-level w/3BR/2.5BA, updated kitchen w/ breakfast nook, vaulted ceiling, random plank floors, bonus room, level garden & filtered Bay view. Dana Cohen



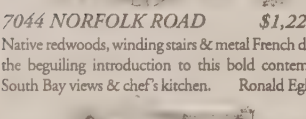
7044 NORFOLK ROAD **\$1,225,000**
Native redwoods, winding stairs & metal French doors are the beguiling introduction to this bold contemporary. South Bay views & chef's kitchen. Ronald Eggherman



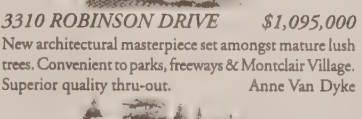
4401 HARBORD DRIVE **\$749,000**
Jewel in Upper Rockridge. English Tudor featuring a custom kitchen with cherrywood cabinets, large lot with level play area. 3+BR/2.5BA. Mavis Delacroix



5800 ST. PAUL COURT **\$585,000**
Upper Rockridge 3BR/2BA with great level garden. Excellent condition with 2-car garage. Great opportunity to move to this sought after location. Ed Kuo



9049 BROADWAY TERRACE **\$1,150,000**
Enjoy spectacular city views from this wonderful home. The open floor plan & soaring ceilings, make this a special place to entertain. 4BR/2.5BA. Mindy Scott



320 CALDECOTT LANE #318 **\$399,000**
Gorgeous 2BR/2BA "Carmel" model w/loft. Maple cabinets & exquisite decor make this condominium a real "knock-out"! Amenities- security, pool & gym. Tricia Swift

OAKLAND, BERKELEY & RICHMOND - BY APPOINTMENT



FIVE BRIDGE VIEW **\$1,385,000**
Fabulous custom home w/breathtaking SF view, circular driveway, master suite, library, family room, modern kitchen. Three-car garage. Sherry Benninger



CROCKER HIGHLANDS **\$650,000**
Level-in Tudor style Crocker Highlands home. Beautiful living room w/fireplace & hardwood floors, formal dining, den, breakfast room. 3+BR/1.5BA. Kurt Buchholz



LIVE OAK PARK CONDO **\$389,000**
BERKELEY. Spacious 1BR condominium located in North Berkeley, just one block to Gourmet Ghetto. Hardwood floors, built-ins & custom finishes. Lori Lombardo



CLAREMONT HILLS **\$998,000**
Dramatic Claremont Hills contemporary w/Bay & hill views. 3BR/2.5BA, vaulted ceilings, kitchen/family room, formal dining room plus rumpus room. Helen Bury



LAUREL BUNGALOW **\$425,000**
Cute bungalow in quiet Laurel area. 2BR/1BA with huge level yard. Magical view of Oakland hills. Great condition. Fireplace and French doors. Ed Kuo



VINTAGE CHARM **\$325,000**
COMING SOON. Rockridge condominium near College Ave shops & BART. Living room w/fireplace, formal dining room level out to garden patio. Judith Cain
VIEW LOT WITH PLANS **\$749,000**
Large lot in Oakland/Berkeley hills w/views of SF & bridges. Building plans & permit available. Angela Wei Grubb
LOT & PLANS **\$575,000**
Build your own home in a most desirable neighborhood. Downslope lot w/Bay view & plans. Debra J. Dryden

ELEGANT CONDO **\$749,000**
Elegant & stylish 2BR/2.5BA condominium near Rockridge & BART. Spacious living room, formal dining room, office space & views. Nancy Lehrkind

BAY VIEW CONTEMPORARY **\$399,000**
RICHMOND VIEW. Charming updated 50's contemporary. 3BR/2BA, updated kitchen, hardwood floors, Bayview, deck & play yard. Near BART & shopping. Donna Debaridi

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MOUNTAIN BLVD.

OAKLAND, 94611

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CLAREMONT AVENUE

BERKELEY, 94705

652.2133

SERVING PIEDMONT, BERKELEY & OAKLAND - GRUBBCO.COM

WEEKLY SALES

ALAMEDA

1709 Alameda Av - \$500,000
3227 Bayo Vista Av - \$610,000
334 Beach Rd - \$450,000
1901 Eagle Av - \$437,000
731 Haight Av - \$475,000
1354 Hansen Av - \$580,000
1028 Island Dr - \$440,000
101 Lawrence Rd - \$650,000
2112 Lincoln Av - \$265,000
3027 Marina Dr - \$600,000
872 Oak St - \$425,000
3006 Otis Dr - \$439,000
748 Pacific Av - \$539,000
1076 Park Av - \$560,000
1711 Pearl St - \$428,000
968 Pearl St - \$425,000
151 Purcell Dr - \$579,000
1173 Regent St - \$644,000
21 Rutland Ct - \$450,000
57 Sable Pointe - \$698,000
416 Santa Clara Av - \$425,000
2101 Shoreline #228 - \$395,000

429 Taylor Av - \$380,000

ALBANY

738 Talbot Av - \$370,000

BERKELEY

1601 10th St - \$375,000
1412 66th St - \$433,000
12 Ajax Pl - \$2,200,000
862 Arlington Av - \$544,000
1249 Bancroft Wy - \$439,000
2620 California St - \$320,000
2023 Carleton St - \$530,000
1402 Dwight Wy - \$410,000
1843 Dwight Wy - \$335,000
2803 Forest Av - \$800,000
1448 Neilson St - \$315,000
1785 Oxford St - \$377,500
1219 Peralta Av - \$530,000
758 Peralta Av - \$460,000
2804 Piedmont Av - \$854,000
623 San Luis Rd - \$820,000

790 Spruce St - \$625,000
1636 Stuart St - \$385,000
2409 Webster St - \$482,000

EL CERRITO

3301 Belmont Av - \$850,000
1055 Contra Costa Dr - \$565,000
2616 Ellerhorst Av - \$560,000
1314 Elm St - \$405,000
1606 Elm St - \$305,000
929 Everett St - \$300,000
5700 Jordan Av - \$420,000
1715 Julian Ct - \$455,000
7215 Plank Av - \$385,000
6920 Potrero Av - \$490,000
7428 Seaview Pl - \$424,000
843 Shevlin Dr - \$490,000
2531 Tamalpais Av - \$601,000

EL SOBRANTE

662 Pebble Dr - \$355,000
115 Renee Ct - \$375,000

5313 Ridgeview #B1 - \$190,000

EMERYVILLE

1200 65th St #103 - \$399,000
1200 65th St #104 - \$399,000
1200 65th St #224 - \$385,000

KENSINGTON

5 Arlington Av - \$375,000
625 Beloit Av - \$592,000

OAKLAND

2114 101st Av - \$241,000
2139 103rd Av - \$158,000
2245 109th Av - \$350,000
2335 11th Av - \$350,000
1668 15th St - \$219,000
1444 16th St - \$320,000
693 25th St - \$150,000
1060 28th St - \$260,000

See SALES, Page B10

Find Out What Your Home is Worth On-Line visit:
www.OaklandHomeValue.com
Agent, Prudential C.A.R.

2932 MILLSBRAE AVENUE OPEN SUNDAY! 2-4:30

Spacious Millsmount 2 bedroom, 1 bath home totally rebuilt in 1998. Kitchen has stone tile and sunny, bright breakfast room. Features include hardwood floors throughout, living room w/fireplace, formal dining and landscaped backyard w/deck for entertaining. Total neighborhood participation at Christmas.

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pruweb.com/dolliehenson



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56,218 listings
www.PruWeb.com

★ Indicates Homes Being Held Open

OAKLAND/PIEDMONT



★ Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$1,495,000
3 Contra Costa Pl. Level-in 4+BR/3BA. Fantastic SF to Marin views. 2 master suites. Huge family/entertainment room. Aleso G./Vickie R. (510) 428-0900

★ Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$925,000
80 Sheridan Rd. Exquisite 3+BR/2.5BA, 2 fireplace, formal DR, gourmet kitchen, great room, lanai, family room. Rosalie Marshall (510) 428-0900

★ Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$899,000
6615 Elverton Dr. Great price for striking 5BR/4BA never home w/incredible view! Heidi Marchesotti (510) 339-9290

★ Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$850,000
118 Parkside Dr. Elegant 2+BR/1BA Normandy cottage in the Uplands! Grynbal/Randall (510) 339-9290

★ Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$725,000
5571 Maxwellton Rd. 1st Open! Traditional 3BR/2BA charmer with cathedral ceiling and level yard. Bill Boze (510) 339-9290

★ Open Sun. 1:30-5 \$645,000
1048 Underhills, Crocker Highlands Tudor, split level, 3BR/1BA, many upgrades, spacious remod. kitchen, hardwood floors, deck, garden. Dolores Thom (510) 834-2010



★ Open Sun. 1:30-5 \$589,000
1253 Holman, Crocker Highlands. New Listing! Sweet 3BR/1BA Bungalow. Basement plus room, yard, hot tub. Dolores Thom (510) 834-2010

★ Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$572,000
2032 Clemens Rd. Stylish 2+BR/2.5BA with large rumpus room, 2 fireplaces, and open beamed ceilings. Vikki Landes (510) 339-9290

★ Open Sun. 2-4 \$489,000

2340 Broadway Terr. #401. Sweeping pano views, 2BR/2BA condo, FP, deck, remodeled kitchen/BA's, well maintained building. Cindy Fleming (510) 428-0900

★ Open Sun. 2-4 \$465,000

671 63rd St. North Oakland 3BR/1BA Craftsman. Hardwood floors, fireplace, yard, garage. 4 blocks to Ashby BART. New Price. Camille & Michele (510) 868-1400

★ Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$399,000

701 MacArthur. China Hill 3+BR/2+BA, fireplace, den, laundry and income potential. Near shopping & transportation. Katie O'Shea (510) 339-9290

★ Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$395,000

1622 Chestnut St. 4+BR/2BA. Large Victorian family-style home. Upgraded interior. Jacque Palacios (510) 834-2010

★ Open Sun. 1-4 \$389,000

1435 E. 36th St. Glenview Bungalow. 4BR/1BA. Clean, ready to move in. Hardwood floors, FDR. Jacque Palacios (510) 4834-2010

★ Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$375,000

2932 Millsbrae Ave. 1st Open. Total rebuild in 1998! 2BR/1BA w/ hardwood floors, updated kitchen, bath and deck! Dollie Henson (510) 339-9290

★ Open Sun. 2-4 \$349,000

737 2nd St. #304. Phoenix loft. Wonderful & quiet at Jack London Square. Separate sleeping space. Graham Carter (510) 868-1400

★ Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$269,000

320 Lee St. #901. Sophisticated 1BR condo with sweeping views near Lake Merritt. Morgan & Tom (510) 428-0900

★ Open Sun. 2-4 \$215,000

5 Embarcadero. Jack London Square. Sweet 1BR/1BA near BART, ferry, train with gym, pool & tennis. Amy or Aliya (510) 868-1400

★ Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$205,000

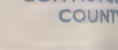
245 Perkins St. #45. Fabulous new condo listing with 1BR, 1BA and fireplace. Vikki Landes (510) 339-9290

BERKELEY/ALBANY

★ Open Sun. 1-4

1443 Russell. 2BR. Great original details, feet. Back deck, off m Jean (510)

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY



★ Open Sun. 1-4

5229 Silva Ave. Beautiful in Mira Vista area. 1BA, family room, master suite and Special location on border. Carol (510)

★ Open Sun. 2-4

2240 Mira Vista Dr. 2BR/1BA updated hardwood floors, dual pane windows. (510)

★ Open Sun. 2-4

548 Everett St. Charm house in most sou Cerrito location. Ma new foundation & sparkling floors. (510)

ALAMEDA

★ Open Sun. 2-4

1321 Webster #D serene 1BR condo w/water. Must see! (510)

SAN LEAN

Manor Charmer

3BR/1BA. Nice size great for entertaining (510)

RESIDENTIAL

INCOME

8 Units in Berkeley

Excellent price in units. All with 1BR maintenance. Good Good upside. (510)

First Open House OPEN SUNDAY Feb. 9 MONTCLAIR 1-5 PM



5740 Colton Blvd. - Stunning New Construction

4 bedroom, 3.5 bath new Contemporary kitchen and family room combo. Light stained cherry wood cabinets and light floor, dual sided fireplace, lovely inserts to feature your special treasures, 3 good sized bedrooms and a Master suite w/alcuzzi tub opens to terraced back yard. Dumbwater offers ease. Many other special features make this a great place to call your NEW Home.



Offered at \$1,100,000

Donna Conroy 510-339-4723
Tour at www.donnaconroy.com



Coming Soon! 110 Maxwellton Road, Piedmont



On top of the world! Enjoy the views of San Francisco, the Golden Gate Bridge and much more from this three bedroom/two and a half bath home in the hills of Piedmont.

Offered at \$920,000



Martha Holstlaw, CRS
Senior Sales Consultant
(510) 338-1312



just ask our clients

pacificunion.com

A sampling of our current listings



Cow Hollow

Panoramic views of the Bay from every room in this 1 bed/1 bath top floor unit. Just half a block from Union St. shops and restaurants. Recently remodeled kitchen; wood burning fireplace; private deck, 1 car parking. Low HOA. \$499,000



Hayes Valley

Junior 1 bedroom condo in a great building, The Barcelona. Hardwood floors, eat-in kitchen, walk-in closet. Close to Civic Center, shopping, restaurants and easy public transit. \$235,000

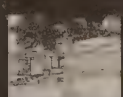


Cathedral Hill

Rarely available west-facing unit in the Sutterfield. Very well maintained - in pristine condition - 1 bedroom, 1 bath with parking and partial City views. Perfect for the busy executive. \$450,000



Jim Hedges
Manager
jimhedges@pru.com



2241 Market St
San Francisco



2200 Union St
San Francisco

415-762-9399

ALAMEDA

510-337-8670

GRAND LAKE

510-834-2010

BERKELEY REGIONAL

510-868-1400

MONTCLAIR

510-339-9290

CLAREMONT

510-845-0211

PIEDMONT

510-428-0900

EL CERRITO

510-527

Looking for

CALL 800-499

House hunting this weekend? Turn to Hills Newspapers Real Estate & Home section first.

★★★ Open House, Sunday, February 9, 2003 ★★★

OPEN 1:00-5:00 P.M.



Rockridge "Arts & Crafts"
5265 Lawton Ave. \$929,000

A Grand "Arts & Crafts" Brown Shingle!
Visit this Amazing Rockridge Home and you are in for a Special Treat. This home has it all - 4 spacious bedrooms, 1+ remodeled bathrooms, and a wonderful traditional 2-story floor plan with a formal living room & dining room, paneled music or library, remodeled eat-in gourmet kitchen, and home-work nook on the 2nd floor. From the warmth of the brown shingle exterior to the original wood architectural detailing this home sings. The detailing is truly stunning with built-in China cabinets, wood paneling, boxed beam ceilings, book shelves, fireplace w/gas insert, and a unique stairway with bench. A home with this level of finish rarely comes to market and is worth a visit. A private level yard, 1-car garage, and the friendly front porch completes the package.

Ron Kriss ext. 55
www.5265Lawton.com

OPEN 1:00-5:00 P.M.



Rockridge Bungalow
5128 Miles Ave. \$539,000

Stunning Craftsman Bungalow in Rockridge
Visit this wonderful Lower Rockridge Home and you are in for a real treat. It features 2 bedrooms, 1+ bathrooms, and is a Gardener's Paradise. There are great architectural details like crown moldings, arched room dividers, gleaming hardwood floors, a beautiful living room with a bay window and fireplace, and grandma's original kitchen with a sunny breakfast nook. There is a new main electrical service and the interior is painted with designer colors. The sunny level rear yard is a perfect place for friends & family, and there is plenty of room for a veggie garden. There is a huge basement with tons of usable space with the "old summer" kitchen, a laundry room, a plus room that could be a home office, a great workshop for the do it yourselfers, and an oversized garage with internal access to the house.

Ron Kriss ext. 55
www.5128MilesAve.com

OPEN 1:00-4:30 P.M.



Beautiful Redwood Heights
4509 Elinora Ave.
Oakland \$580,000

All the space you have dreamed about is in this wonderful two level ranch style home

- Approx. 2569 sq. ft.
- 4 Bedrooms
- 3 Baths
- Formal Entry
- Formal Living room
- Park Like Setting
- Rumpus Room
- Level Back Yard
- Master Bedroom with Bath
- Fabulous Hardwood Floors
- 3 Fireplaces
- 2 Car Garage
- Approx. 9,702 Sq. Ft. Lot
- Kitchen/Dining/Family Room Combo
- Walk to Schools
- Laundry in House

Mary Smartt ext. 57
www.4509ElinoraAve.com

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GRAND OPENING

of the Brand New

MODEL HOME GALLERY



THIS WEEKEND
FEBRUARY 8 AND 9
11 AM to 3 PM

Live entertainment and refreshments

Come out to Trilogy at Rio Vista this Saturday and Sunday from 11a.m. to 3p.m. for the Grand Opening of the new Model Home Gallery and the spectacular new Vista Clubhouse. Here you will find 8 brand new, fully-decorated models ranging in size from 1,153-2,541 square feet in the latest styles of homes. These truly magnificent homes feature fresh new designs that provide a great sense of open, dramatic living areas. The Vista Clubhouse is the perfect place to explore, featuring a state-of-the-art fitness center, an indoor jogging track and swimming pool as well as a cyber cafe and a center for higher learning.

So come out and experience the beautiful new Model Home Gallery and the impressive Vista Clubhouse for yourself. Because once you do, you may just make Trilogy at Rio Vista your new home.

1,153-2,541 sq. ft. homes priced from the low \$200s
Daily 9am-5pm / Information call 800-589-4080
1200 Clubhouse Drive, Rio Vista, CA 94571
I-80 to Hwy. 12, east 25 miles or
Hwy. 4 to Hwy. 160, north to Hwy. 12, west 3 miles.

SheaHomes
For Active Adults



Pursuant to the Fair Housing Act, Trilogy is attended for occupancy by at least one person 55 years of age or older, per unit with certain exceptions. Other occupants must satisfy certain other requirements which are set forth in federal and state law.

Magnificent New Model Home Gallery
with 8 Fully-Decorated Models/13 Exciting
Floorplans • Gated Community • 18-hole
Championship Golf Course Designed by
Ted Robinson, Sr. • 27,000 sq. ft. Vista
Clubhouse • Golf Shop & Grille • Fitness
Center • Indoor Swimming Pool & Spa
• Cyber Cafe • Ballroom • Center for
Learning • Rooms for Artistic Pursuits •
Tennis Courts • Bocce Courts

Trilogy
at Rio Vista
www.trilogylife.com

Sales

FROM PAGE B8

1208 32nd St - \$311,000
1222 32nd St - \$304,500
1228 32nd St - \$301,000
521 32nd St - \$230,000
820 32nd St - \$280,000
1450 34th St - \$125,000
1849 39th Av - \$255,000
757 47th St - \$260,000
2021 5th Av - \$450,000
2714 60th Av - \$315,000
1179 64th St - \$225,000
1079 66th St - \$317,000
1428 67th Av - \$135,000
1434 68th Av - \$250,000
3409 69th Av - \$330,000
1115 70th Av - \$477,000
1604 72nd Av - \$255,000
1270 75th Av - \$350,000
2693 79th Av - \$245,000
1085 81st Av - \$260,000
1930 85th Av - \$275,000
2057 86th Av - \$225,000
1323 91st Av - \$238,000
1316 94th Av - \$366,000
1921 96th Av - \$260,000
9114 A St - \$468,000
11032 Alcanes - \$220,000
5820 Adeline St - \$230,000
712 Alice St - \$250,000

7207 Arthur St - \$220,000
1775 Auseon Av - \$264,000
6201 Baker St - \$260,000
1412 B... - \$260,000
1721 Brush St - \$85,000
6150 Bullard Dr - \$205,000
3617 Calafia Av - \$400,000
240 Caldecott 314 - \$285,000
99 Catron Dr - \$390,000
2623 Coolidge Av - \$299,000
33 Cortez Ct - \$705,000
3235 Davis St - \$145,000
5247 Desmond St - \$900,000
8089 Earl St - \$423,000
2517 East 21st St - \$250,000
2254 East 23rd St - \$100,000
1918 East 26th St - \$215,000
2818 East 7th St - \$207,000
5461 El Camile Av - \$355,000
4355 Everett Av - \$612,000
3978 Fairway Av - \$479,500
6536 Farallon Wy - \$650,000
5621 Fleming Av - \$350,000
928 Franklin 429 - \$350,000
3957 Hanly Rd - \$485,000
3768 Harrison 102 - \$294,000
2521 Havenscourt Bl - \$280,000
7967 Hillside St - \$350,000
157 Hunter Av - \$270,000
555 Jean St #522 - \$212,000
3039 Kingsland Av - \$395,000
3609 Kingsley St - \$230,000

1600 Lakeshore 305 - \$200,000
5506 Laverne Av - \$265,000
2350 Leimert Bl - \$790,000
7401 Lockwood Ct - \$227,000
700 Longridge Rd - \$860,000
3060 Lyman Rd - \$680,000
3058 MacArthur Bl - \$415,000
3233 Magnolia St - \$405,000
3235 Magnolia St - \$392,500
3239 Magnolia St - \$393,000
6215 Majestic Av - \$337,500
525 Mandana Bl - \$280,000
5221 Manila Av - \$560,000
3336 MLK Jr Wy - \$250,000
2757 Maxwell Av - \$360,000
8990 McGurrian Dr - \$562,500
3932 Oakmore Rd - \$640,000
7015 Orral St - \$210,000
7523 Outlook Av - \$253,000
1122 Peralta St - \$210,000
1519 Peralta St - \$175,000
365 Perkins 105 - \$206,000
350 Perkins 203 - \$198,000
8159 Phaeton Dr - \$599,000
1704 Pleasant Valley - \$795,000
717 Rand Av - \$555,000
3624 Richmond Bl - \$425,000
5869 Roberts Av - \$243,000
167 Samaria Ln - \$430,000
15835 Skyline Bl - \$750,000
5983 Skyline Bl - \$1,377,000
1425 Sunshine Ct - \$195,000

4353 Terrabellia Wy - \$430,000
6315 Thornhill Dr - \$582,500
41 Thousand Oaks - \$445,000
1392 Trestle Glen Rd - \$225,000
1580 Tucker St - \$287,000
1582 Tucker St - \$262,000
1584 Tucker St - \$320,000
1586 Tucker St - \$293,000
1592 Tucker St - \$243,500
261 Tunis Rd - \$275,000
360 Vernon 400 - \$331,500
5428 Wadean Pl - \$260,000
9701 Walnut St - \$270,000

3007 Webster Dr - \$388,000
825 Humboldt St - \$500,000
2344 Maricopa Av - \$650,000
3520 M... - \$480,000
2927 McKenzie Dr - \$304,500
3224 Marinipide Dr - \$275,000
2833 Ohio Av - \$210,000
108 South 20th St - \$202,000
419 South 26th St - \$157,500
433 South 26th St - \$425,000
545 South 30th St - \$221,000
563 South 30th St - \$435,000
379 South 50th St - \$265,000
149 South 9th St - \$265,000
895 Yuba St - \$350,000

300 Bowling Bl - \$365,000
142 Euclid Av - \$315,000
1992 Evergreen - \$388,000
2500 Galileo 120 - \$200,000
622 Glen Dr - \$525,000
1814 Halsey Av - \$260,000
1743 Halsey Av - \$370,000
2579 Humboldt Dr - \$360,000
735 Jubilee Ln - \$610,000
743 Matoza Ln - \$589,000
747 Matoza Ln - \$585,000
751 Matoza Ln - \$589,000
540 Mitchell Av - \$360,000
14634 Outrigger Dr - \$260,000
14087 Reed Av - \$257,000
2167 San Remo Ct - \$200,000
2005 Star Pine Wy - \$200,000
1976 Wallace Av - \$325,000
533 Warden Av - \$339,000
2499 Yaffe Dr - \$470,000

PIEDMONT

36 Cambridge Wy - \$837,000
107 Estates Dr - \$1,136,000
214 Moraga Av - \$600,000
1808 Trestle Glen Rd - \$828,000
132 Wildwood Av - \$600,000

RICHMOND

675 36th St - \$450,000
119 37th St - \$350,000
521 42nd St - \$370,000
1549 7th St - \$316,500
6446 Arlington Bl - \$375,000
700 Bradford Dr - \$243,000
2810 Clinton Av - \$299,000
3828 Clinton Av - \$280,000

SAN LEANDRO

1563 136th Av - \$266,000
1500 142nd Av - \$320,000
1673 142nd Av - \$335,000
1730 142nd Av - \$450,000
1848 151st Av - \$279,000
1635 159th Av - \$319,000
427 Alvarado 100 - \$474,000
431 Alvarado 100 - \$460,000
13541 Bancroft 16 - \$228,000
2147 Buena Vista Av - \$330,000
1400 Carpenter 116 - \$255,000
16809 Carriage Ln - \$282,000
140 Castro St - \$278,000
14191 Doolittle Dr - \$253,000

SAN LORENZO

15793 Connolly Av - \$400,000
562 Rutgers St - \$380,000
17531 Via Arriba - \$465,000
17890 Via Arriba - \$310,000
1683 Via Carreta - \$425,000

Please be kind to the environment; recycle this newspaper.

TERE LEE
李麗珠
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CRS
Harbor Bay Realty
"TRUST A PROFESSIONAL WHO CARES"

ALAMEDA
NEW LISTING
1028 ISLAND - SOLD
single level home. New carpeting, new paint, new stove. \$399,000

318 D CYPRESS ST - PENDING
3 Bdrm. co-op at Woodstock. Reduced to \$249,00

SAN LEANDRO
1400 CARR - SOLD
2 BD/2 BA. Pacific Plaza. Walk to BART + transp. \$249,000

NEW LISTING
14388 OUTRIGGER DR
3 Bdrm/2.5 Bath. Gated Community. Townhouse. Adjacent to Monarch Bay golf course. \$745,000

14402 OUTRIGGER DR.
Brand new construction. 3 Bdrm/2.5 Bath. Upper unit. Two 1-car gar. Adjacent to Monarch Bay golf course. \$749,000

OAKLAND
85 EDMONT WAY.
OPEN SUNDAY 2-4
3 Bdrm/2.5 Bath, near Dunsmuir House & Gardens. Price Reduction! Rec/Room. Room move-in condition. \$459,000



1815 Paru, Alameda
OPEN Sat. & Sun. 2-4
New Model Home?
Single family home in Alameda
2200 sq. ft. Prestigious new home development. 3+ bedrooms, den downstairs, open loft upstairs, gourmet kitchen, all new appliances included. Off street parking for 5 vehicles. Fabulous master suite.
Reduced to \$658,000

Coming Soon.
Harbor Bay Home. Approx. 2500 sq. ft., 3 levels, 5+ bed, 3 bath. Modern Resort style home.
\$588,000

Single Family Alameda Home.
Only 3 years old, master suite, fireplace, big yard, near private park. Excellent Price - Must See!
Only \$478,000



DonnaLuci Williams
(510) 814-4826
donnaluci@aol.com
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An Evening With JOHN EXLINE

Hi, I'm John Exline and I'd like to invite you to a FREE, 90-minute seminar this Tuesday called:
Generating Wealth in Bay Area Real Estate

Which is worth more . . . The value in your house OR the amount you have in your stock portfolio or 401k?
Answer: Most families have made more money in real estate than all of their other investments & retirement plans - combined.

One client recently concluded that he'd need to save over \$25,000 per year to be able to retire in 20 years. He has done much better than that with his real estate investments - and most of his gains were TAX-FREE. We'll show you how you can do this, and much more.

What You'll Learn At The Seminar
Whether you currently own one house - or ten, you will learn NEW techniques that will take you to the next-level in building your real estate portfolio in the fastest & safest ways possible.

I'll share stories from many of my clients on how to acquire the most real estate with your current assets, job & income, how the recent tax laws give you tax-free or tax-deferred transactions, the best types of properties to acquire, how to use your 401k to acquire real estate, how to arrange equity-share agreements and so much more.

This is a free seminar and there is absolutely nothing to buy. Please join us this Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

John Exline Has Funded Over 3,000 Deals Worth Over \$100 Million In The Danville, San Ramon & Walnut Creek Areas

San Ramon Marriott

2600 Bishop Drive • San Ramon
Directions : Hwy-680 to Bollinger exit (East), 1st left on to Sunset, 2nd left on to Bishop
FREE Admission • No RSVP required • Sponsored By: Advantage Financial of Danville • (925) 820-9444

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Dennis Creps
Pick up valuable tips from someone who really knows real estate markets. Creps, CEO of Success Seminars, is an experienced real estate broker/owner and full-time trainer and consultant. For eleven years, he has been invited to speak at the National Association of Realtors annual convention. Audiences enjoy his up-beat and humorous presentations plus his business-boosting ideas.

In this fast-paced workshop you will discover...

- ◆ How to create dynamic personal promotion
- ◆ How to write ads that grab attention & get calls
- ◆ How to gain more qualified buyers & sellers
- ◆ The newest marketing trends to increase your sales

Write Ads That Make Your Telephone Ring!
More Calls = More Sales

"Everyone was thrilled with the seminar and felt that it was invaluable."

Most everyone has already changed their advertising and has seen positive results."

Phil Heller, President
Summit Association of Realtors
Frisco, Colorado

"I have attended over a hundred seminars and can give me with the tools that I need."

"That seminar was yours!"

Tony Pizza
Charles B. Swenson, Inc. Realtor
Jersey City, New Jersey

March 10, 2003 • C.C.A.R. Members \$29 • Non-Members \$34

8:00 a.m. Registration & Breakfast • 9:00 am.-Noon Program
Civic Arts Education Shadelands Campus,
111 North Wiget Lane, Walnut Creek (Corner of North Wiget and Ygnacio Valley Road)

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Looking for a new home? Don't miss this week's Open Home Guide on page B16.

BERKELEY HILLS REALTY
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View pictures of our listings at www.berkhills.com

Wildcat Canyon Rd., Berkeley
 Open Sun., 2-4
 Enjoy your weekend house every day. Large, dramatic temporary set on a huge lot. View of Bay & Tilden Park, close to U.C.B., public transportation & all the amenities of north Berkeley. Open floorplan, high ceiling, gourmet kitchen, stylish updated bath & romantic fireplace overlooking exquisite, professionally landscaped grounds. Comes with adjoining, separate lot. Close proximity to BART, Solano Ave., freeway & the new El Cerrito Mall. Truly a special place!
 Denise Milburn x35

El Dorado, Berkeley
 Open Sun., 2-4:30
 Last Enjoy your own private oasis w/ pretty views. Charming, sun-filled home w/ updated gourmet kitchen, stylish updated bath & romantic fireplace overlooking exquisite, professionally landscaped grounds. Comes with adjoining, separate lot. Close proximity to BART, Solano Ave., freeway & the new El Cerrito Mall. Truly a special place!
 Denise Milburn x35

Wood Condominiums, Oakland
 Appointment
 1-bdrm "Golden Gate" model w/ many designer touches incl. built-in entertainment center, dining room, hardwood floors, ceiling fan, closet organizers & antique stained glass window. Excellent amenities in this very new complex. Pool, gym, security, express bus to J & BART + lots more!
 Denise Milburn x35

Don't ever give up your job because you really make a difference in people's lives.
 —A. M., Berkeley

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NEW LISTING

5922 Costa Costa Road, Upper Rockridge
 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. A gracious traditional built in 1996 to exacting standards. The inviting entry foyer has elegant curving stairs leading to four upstairs bedrooms. The main floor includes formal entertaining spaces, a private den and a large elegant kitchen/family room. French doors open to patio and deck.
 Offered at \$1,476,000

TRICIA SWIFT
 339.0400/333
 tsswift@grubbco.com

JOHN KARNAY
 652.2133/230
 karnay@grubbco.com

GRUBBCO.COM

Redwood Heights
 OPEN SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2-5PM

4118 Midvale Avenue
 Wonderful 2+BR/2BA contemporary, beautifully remodeled with stunning bay views. Formal dining room, updated kitchen. Fabulous deck and large sunny yard.
 Offered at \$465,000

Christian Downer
 Senior Sales Associate
 510.338.1340

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 pacunion.com

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CROCKER HIGHLANDS
 842 Mandana Blvd. Sun. 2 - 4:30
 \$769,000
 4 BR 3 BA Sunny Craftsman with Old World charm. Beautiful hardwood floors, moldings, built-ins, master suite, home office, family room opens to the garden.
 Dian Hymer 510.339.4700

JOAQUIN MILLER
 3535 Robinson Sun. 2 - 5
 \$375,000
 2 BR 1 BA Suze Ormans' 1st home mentioned in her books. A stunning Contemporary w/a non-conforming cottage. Private lot w/level yard. Location & serenity!
 Judy Ackerman 510.339.4700

BERKELEY
 2050 McGee Avenue Sun. 2 - 4:30
 \$350,000
 2 BR 1 BA Lge vacant duplex. Conv. to UC campus! 2 story Medit style 2BR/1BA ea. plus 6 rooms renovated & ready to move into. Photos www.camoves.com/maura.allen
 Maura Allen 510.486.1495

RICHMOND
 444 Carlton St. Sun. 1 - 4
 \$439,000
 2 BR 2 BA Stunning craftsman bungalow on El Cerrito border. Move-in condition! HWF, lg. entertainment-sized deck, lg. frshd, bonus space w/spiral staircase. A charmer!
 Gene Della Maggiora 510.486.1495

FIRST OPEN

BERKELEY
 1154 Woodside Dr. Sun. 1-4
 \$725,000
 4BR/2.5BA Serene & classy, by Tilden Park. Casual elegance. (approx. 2200+ SF). One level, lrg. fam. rm., garden & patio. Remodeled kit.
 Diana Kay 510.486.1495

OPENS

CLAREMONT PINES
 95 Westminster Sun. 2 - 4:30
 \$1,695,000
 4 BR 3 full BA + 3 half Dramatic & spacious Claremont Pines contemporary w/cook's kitchen, breakfast nook, yard & pool, family room, library, 3 FP, lovely master retreat.
 Karen Lum 510.339.4700

BERKELEY
 1188 Grizzly Peak Blvd Sun. 2 - 4
 \$619,000
 3 BR 2 BA Classic ranch style level & livable dream home next to Tilden Park's trails, golfing & fresh air! Spacious bay view lot. See it to believe.
 Jeanne McHugh 510.486.1495

LINCOLN HEIGHTS
 2442 Burlington St. Sun. 2 - 4:30
 \$499,000
 2 BR 2 BA Spanish-style split-level design. Incredible architectural detail. Bay view, level yard, family room/den, office nook, 2-car garage w/workshop.
 Rachel Baller 510.339.4700

EMERYVILLE
 1500 Park Avenue Sun. 1-5
 \$368,000
 1 BR 1 BA Partial BA, bridge & SF views; top level, highly upgraded, spacious loft close to shops & restaurants. Enjoy hardwood/tile floors & built-ins.
 Elena Stone 510.339.4700

EAST OAKLAND/TOLER HTS.
 2473 99th Ave. Sun. 1-4
 \$309,500
 3 BR 1 BA Spanish remodel charm! New kit. & bath! Level yard, upgrd. elec. Some new foundation. WOW! Priced to sell!
 James Brown 510.486.1495

LAKE MERRITT
 325 Lenox Ave. #201 Sun. 2 - 4:30
 \$299,000
 2 BR 2 BA Major price reduction! Great space & location; fresh paint, new carpet, new bath & kitchen floors, very secure building close to downtown & transport.
 Becky Andersen 510.339.4700

BERKELEY
 2626 Benvenue Ave. Sun. 2 - 4:30
 \$249,500
 1 BR 1 BA Quiet & secluded upstairs condo in small complex. Hardwood floors, garage parking. In the Elmhurst. Convenient to UC Berkeley, shopping, transp.
 Kim Marienthal 510.486.1495

OAKLAND/PILL HILL
 371 30th Street Sun. 12 - 5
 From mid \$200,000's
 New construction-26 units (22-1BR/1BA, 4-2BR/2BA); 9' ceilings, HWF, granite & steel kitchens, German & Italian fixtures, w/d hook-ups, garage.
 Elena Stone 510.339.4700

UPPER ROCKRIDGE
 4 BR 3 full BA + 2 half Dramatic light-filled '97 home overlooking hills. Good separation of space. Quality finishing detail. Lower level w/own entry. Incl. kennel w/shower.
 George Karsant 510.339.4700

PIEDMONT-SIDE-MONTCLAIR
 3 BR 2 BA Lovely home on hilltop w/Bay views. Level garden; FP; updated eat-in kitchen; ideal in/outdoor flow for entertaining; great location near Montclair.
 Nancy Dickey & Becky Andersen 510.339.4700

LOWER OAKMORE
 3 BR 3 BA Stately 2-story Traditional; HWF, large LR w/valued ceiling, FDR, 3FP, library, large kitchen, built garage, large front & back garden.
 Norman Robinow 510.339.4700

LINCOLN HEIGHTS
 2 BR 2 BA City/Bay views & a master oak tree frame a stunning 30's-style home. Level yard, HWF, FP, garage, spacious & lite rooms: Laminated street
 Rachel Baller 510.339.4700

BERKELEY
 3 BR 2 BA Classic 2 story Victorian exuding architectural charm! Tasteful updates. Fr drs frm kit to rear deck. Conv. to Gilman shops. See berkeleyhouses.com
 Rita Zwerdling 510.981-3008

OAKLAND HILLS
 4 BR 2.5 BA Sunny Traditional on corner lot, one owner! Nice floor plan, FP, new carpet, family room, level yard, 2-car garage.
 Ruby Ng & Karen Lum 510.339.4700

TEMESCAL
 4 BR 2 BA Whimsical 2-story, spacious home built in 1910. Choice location proximate to Rockridge amenities, freshly painted & upgraded. Private feeling!
 Donald Coelho 510.339.4700

BY APPOINTMENT

BERKELEY
 2 BR 1 BA Investor opportunity! 4-plex with 2BR/1BA units, 3 vacant - 1 ready for move-in, 2 fixers. Income or owner occupancy.
 Dan Joy 510.339.4700

BERKELEY
 2 BR 1.5 BA Townhome in super Elmhurst location. Fireplace, deck, laundry, parking. Close to UC, shopping & transportation.
 Kim & Barbara Marienthal 510.981-3036

OAKLAND
 3 BR 2 BA Cute 'n cozy w/hardwood floors, nice yard, large kitchen, 1-car garage, off-street parking
 Reva Tolbert 510.339.4700

LOTS

OAKLAND
 20 contiguous lots subdivided already, soils & surveys available.
 David Eckert 510.339.4700

MONTCLAIR
 Skyline at Elverton: downslope w/views & engineered plans, ready for permit.
 David Eckert 510.339.4700

OAKLAND
 8602 Thermal St. View lot! Adjacent lot at 8600 Thermal also for sale. Quiet, old established neighborhood, mostly single-family homes. Behind Holy Redeemer College.
 Diana Kay 510.981-3005

OAKLAND
 8600 Thermal St. View lot! Adjacent lot at 8602 Thermal also for sale. Quiet, old established neighborhood, mostly single-family homes. Behind Holy Redeemer College.
 Diana Kay 510.981-3005

BUYER NEEDS

In the Berkeley or Oakland Hills, 4BR/2BA home up to \$1,200,000.
 Please call Josh Whitmer.....510.981.3027

In Piedmont, 2-3BR home. Needing renovations OK. Up to \$900,000.
 Please call Maura Allen.....510.981.3034

Preferably in Berkeley Hills & Thousand Oaks area. 4BR/2BA home up to \$700,000.
 Please call Kim & Barbara Marienthal.....510.981.3036

Light-filled contemporary in Berkeley, 3BR/2BA plus garden. Up to \$1,000,000.
 Please call Nadine Oel.....510.981.3033

Elmhurst/LCConte School, 3+BR/2BA, sunny yard, fixer ok. Up to \$700,000.
 Please call Sarah Shankman.....510.981.3011

Rockridge or No Berkeley, 2BR or more, Craftsman or classic bungalow up to \$500,000.
 Please call Bobbie Giarratana 510.981.3031

6137 LaSalle Avenue
 Oakland.
 510.339.4700

1495 Shattuck Avenue
 Berkeley
 510.486.1495

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Reid

FROM PAGE B3

15762 Via Colusa - \$310,000
15746 Via Corta - \$395,000
16076 Via Granada - \$340,000
1170 Via Lucas - \$415,000
17483 Via Melina - \$360,000
16072 Via Paro - \$347,000
15800 Via Seco - \$365,000

By the numbers

ALAMEDA
TOTAL SALES: 23
LOWEST PRICE: \$265,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$698,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$450,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$495,391

ALBANY

TOTAL SALES: 1
PRICE: \$370,000

BERKELEY

TOTAL SALES: 19
LOWEST PRICE: \$315,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$2,200,000

MEDIAN PRICE: \$460,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$591,289

EL CERRITO

TOTAL SALES: 13
LOWEST PRICE: \$300,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$850,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$452,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$480,538

EL SOBRANTE

TOTAL SALES: 3
LOWEST PRICE: \$190,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$375,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$355,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$306,667

EMERYVILLE

TOTAL SALES: 3
LOWEST PRICE: \$385,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$399,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$399,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$394,333

KENSINGTON

TOTAL SALES: 2

See SALES, Page B14

To contact the real estate editor, call 510-748-1655
or e-mail devanosky@cctimes.com

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COMPANY	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Rates as of 2/4/03 COMMENTS
CMG Mortgage 800-958-5339 DRE#0170028 Fees=\$1433	30-yr Fixed 5.500...1.000 5.655...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750...1.000 5.875...30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 3.625...1.000 3.731...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.500...1.250 4.633...30	Open Sat & Sun. Quik Qualifier & stated income option available. Financing for people with less than perfect credit
Downey Savings & Loan 800-798-2148 DCC#037471 Fees=\$1428	30-yr Fixed 5.500...1.500 5.665...60	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750...2.000 5.951...60	1-mo COFI ARM* 2.450...1.000 5.117...45		Direct lender. 45 yrs experience; fixed & adjust rate mortgages. *Pot. neg. amort. Apply online at www.downeysavings.com
eSource Mortgage, Inc. 888-221-9787 DCC#6038477 Fees=\$1352	30-yr Fixed 5.375...2.000 5.540...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000...0.000 6.090...30	15-yr Fixed 4.875...1.875 5.040...30	OPTION ARM 1.950...0.000 4.330...60	Low rates with NO POINTS ALSO NO CLOSING COSTS AVAILABLE Pics. online www.esourcemortgage.com
Finet.com 800-641-7556 DRE#00921943 Fees=\$1717	30-yr Fixed call	30-yr Fxd Jumbo call	-	-	Call us for your low credit and unique situations 1-800-641-7556
Golden Horizon Mortgage 877-414-8280 DRE#01316954 Fees=\$1699	30-yr Fixed 5.750...0.000 5.859...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875...0.000 5.948...30	15-yr Fixed 4.750...2.000 5.126...30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 4.000...0.500 4.308...30	Open weekends. Low & No closing costs. Invest prop. Credit problems. Apply by phone or online www.calfirstlending.com
Imperial Mortgage 800-961-2274 DRE#01033832 Fees=\$1453	30-yr Fixed 5.500...1.000 5.740...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750...1.000 5.940...30	15-yr Fixed 4.875...1.000 5.300...30	5-yr Balloon 4.125...1.000 4.330...30	Don't get lured-in by low, low Quotes! Call me for an honest, lockable rate! In-home apprs. or Imperial Mortgage net
Lenders Northstar Mtg Grp 1-925-284-3960 DRE#1345744 Fees=\$2224	30-yr Fixed 5.375...2.000 5.833...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.625...1.750 5.820...30	15-yr Fixed 5.125...1.250 5.444...30	5/1 ARM 4.500...1.000 4.143...30	Best Rates & Service. Call or apply online WWW.NSMLOANS.COM Located in Lafayette. CALL Don't Wait
Matrix Investment Corp. 800-386-8916 DCC#130418 Fees=\$4050	30-yr Fixed 5.250...1.990 5.490...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.500...1.880 5.650...30	15-yr Fixed 4.625...1.880 5.090...30	30-yr Fixed 0 Pts 5.625...0.000 5.730...30	Good & bad credit considered. Brokers welcome! Visit us at www.matrixinvestmentcorp.com
Mortgage Market 800-837-5626 DRE#00887562 Fees=\$1875	30-yr Fixed 5.875...0.000 5.887...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000...0.000 6.113...30	15-yr Fixed 5.375...0.000 5.561...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 5.125...0.000 5.232...30	Credit problems, bankruptcy, difficult loans our specialty. all gov't loans 100% loans, credit lines, construction
Northern Mutual Corp. 888-441-2600 DRE#01243581 Fees=\$2648	30-yr Fixed call	30-yr Fxd Jumbo call	20-yr Fxd Jumbo call		WOW!! Look at our Jumbo int. rates! We guarantee closing costs won't incr. at closing. E mail Steve@northernmutual.com
Pacific West Financial 800-798-7334 DRE#01124581 Fees=\$1694	30-yr Fixed 5.750...0.000 5.856...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875...0.000 5.921...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.875...0.000 4.918...30	5/25 Conforming 4.375...0.000 4.472...30	Se Habla Espanol 100% purchase loans Apply at pacificwestfinancial.net
Premier Mortgage Group 888-389-8633 DCC#1303286 Fees=\$1992	30-yr Fixed 5.625...0.000 5.880...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750...0.000 5.898...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.750...0.000 4.643...30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 4.000...0.000 4.320...30	Get rates online at www.pmgmortgage.com Now open Saturdays 9-3, evenings 10-8pm. Purchases may be 1/8% lower
Saratoga Bancorp 800-935-8266 DRE#0120326 Fees=\$1653	30-yr Fixed 5.750...0.000 5.815...45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875...0.000 5.900...45	15-yr Fixed 5.125...0.000 5.233...45	5/1 ARM 4.750...0.000 4.170...45	Good Credit Reward. No income check loans avail. More rate options @ saratogabancorp.com 1st & 2nd Migs
A American Resid. Lend. 800-566-8470 DRE#130340 Fees=\$1379	30-yr Fixed 5.625...0.000 5.710...45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875...0.000 5.910...45	15-yr Fixed 4.875...0.000 4.920...45	15-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.250...0.000 5.340...45	Refi, purchase or consolidate now! No Doc Loans M-F 8:30-9:00 Sat-Sun 8:30-5:00
A Better Mortgage 800-711-0027 DRE#01162773 Fees=\$1969	30-yr Fixed 5.625...0.000 5.820...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875...0.000 5.960...30	15-yr Fixed 5.000...0.000 5.260...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.750...0.000 4.830...30	Credit problems ok. Open weekends 2nd mortgages/Equity lines available www.westcostfinancial.net
A Superior Mortgage 800-591-4446 DRE#01351704 Fees=\$1889	30-yr Fixed 5.750...0.000 5.930...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875...0.000 6.180...30	15-yr Fixed 5.125...0.000 5.310...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.875...0.000 5.180...30	Open weekends. Credit problems OK "Apply online" Se Habla Espanol www.superior-mtg.net
A-Olympic Funding-Best Rate 800-640-5588 DRE#01197415 Fees=\$1820	30-yr Fixed 5.250...2.000 5.540...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.375...2.000 5.610...30	15-yr Fixed 4.825...2.000 5.010...30	15-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750...2.000 5.110...30	Best Rate Promise! Open 7 days 9-9 S.J., E.Bay & Peninsula Offices www.ofreloans.com 24/7
AAA Mortgage 888-821-8200 DRE#01098146 Fees=\$1599	30-yr Fixed 5.750...0.000 5.842...45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875...0.000 5.961...45	15-yr Fixed 4.750...1.000 5.050...45	15-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.375...0.000 5.441...45	No Cost Loans Available Great Home Equity Loans Open 24/7 @ www.aalender.com
AccessBanc Mortgage 800-661-2765 DRE#00862684 Fees=\$1430	30-yr Fixed 5.750...0.000 5.812...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750...0.000 5.781...30	Jumbo Special*	Jumbo Special*	3yrfmo ARM 4.250%, 3.98% APR. 0.0 Fee 5yrfmo ARM 4.875%, 3.86% APR. 0.0 Fee Prepay & other restrictions may apply
Bay Area Olympic Funding 888-833-1000 DRE#01197415 Fees=\$1685	30-yr Fixed 5.750...0.900 5.763...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875...0.000 5.888...30	3-1 Fix Pay Jmb* 1.850...0.000 1.853...30	25 - 6 JUMBO ARM 3.500...0.000 3.512...30	5-1 INTEREST ONLY MEGA JUMBO 4.88% UP TO \$2,500,000. NO income verif. *Pot. neg. amt. www.MegaJumbo.com
Cal-State Funding 800-883-5363 DRE#00874441 Fees=\$2010	30-yr Fixed 5.625...1.000 5.720...45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875...1.000 5.970...45	5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.875...1.000 5.070...45	3/1 ARM Jumbo 4.375...1.000 4.470...45	Rate change daily. Call for latest rates.
California Mortgage Mart 800-947-4769 DRE#00406187 Fees=\$1758	30-yr Fixed 5.750...0.000 5.820...45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875...0.000 5.900...45	15-yr Fixed 5.000...0.000 5.120...45	15-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.375...0.000 5.420...45	Check our website www.CaliforniaMortgageMart.com for loan application & 45 day upfront lock

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Rates based on \$150,000 loan for single family residence. Jumbo rates (loans in excess of \$322,700) based on \$350,000 loan. All rates are believed to be accurate but cannot be guaranteed and are subject to change without notice. Minimum downpayment requirements and other restrictions may apply. Closing costs may vary. Contact each company. Points include origination and discount fees. APR = annual percentage rate and is calculated by each company - includes costs to obtain loan and private mortgage insurance. Look for lock period. ARM=adjustable rate mortgage. Companies pay a fee to be in this Guide. *Ave 30 yr. fixed conforming with 0 points Fees are estimated costs and not loan to loan. These are not inclusive of all costs and do not include points, prepaid interest, title insurance or escrow items. Click on "Fees" in "Current Mortgage Rates" section + contact each company for details. Copyright 2003, INFOTRAK National Data Services and Knight Publishing Co.

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6+BR 5BA (3+BR 2BA home w/3 separate charming 1BR 1BA cottages on a beautiful large lot, approx. 12,112 sq. ft.). Well maintained property. #02039315 Bing Pierce 510-662-8560

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677 Humboldt (Open Sun 2-4) 2BR 1BA, upgraded kitchen and bath, refinished hardwood floors, new interior and exterior paint, new landscaping, 1 car attached garage w/interior access, central heat. www.gerlster.com 510-662-8469

CLASSIC HOME W/PARK VIEWS \$369,500
3+BR 2BA approx. 1678 sq. ft., larger lot, formal dining room, fireplace, huge living room, RV parking, freshly painted, comp shingle roof, lots of storage in spacious attic. #03003091 Mike Winter 510-662-8482

MIRA VISTA VIEW HOME \$399,988
5625 Hazel (Open Sun 1-4) 50's charmer! SF, Bay, partial GG views! 3+BR, BA, 2 car att. garage, huge level yard, FDR, gleaming hardwd. flrs, fireplace, central heat. #03003091 www.cynthiaburke.com 510-662-8528

OAKLAND

SEQUOYAH HEIGHTS TOWNHOME W/SOME BAY VIEWS \$449,000

21 Ironwood (Open Sun 1-5) 2BR 2BA on 1 level. Fireplace, hardwood floors, updated kitchen and backyard w/a patio. Jamie Lake 510-662-8487.

Visit our website - <http://www.spre.com>

RED OAK REALTY
www.redoakreality.com

Homes Open Sunday

OAKLAND \$299,000
NEW LISTING! 2/2 - Turn Key! Bungalow with remodeled kitchen & baths, upgrades galore! In-law potential.
9917 Stanley Avenue Open 2-4

ALBANY \$379,000
2/1 - Architect-designed cottage, totally rebuilt with permits. Elegant details: deck, hardwood floors, more.
1025 Kains Avenue Open 2-4

RICHMOND \$319,000
NEW LISTING! 2/1 - Charming, updated home with good floorplan. In convenient location.
5226 Sierra Avenue Open 2-4:30

BERKELEY \$525,000
NEW LISTING! 3/1+ Family room, huge lot, needs some work. More at www.HeldAndJerry.com
2834 Shasta Road Open 2-4

BERKELEY \$389,000
1+1/1 - Large, sunny Northside in charming 1920's 4-unit bldg. Near UC & Gourmet Ghettos.
2265 Cedar Street Open 2-4

TEMESCAL \$599,000
SFR + 2 additional income units. Owner-occupants opportunity. Great location, great income.
436 48th Street Open 2-4

BERKELEY \$399,000
1/1 - Original Craftsman charm. Garden, landscaped backyard, remodeled custom kitchen. More!
2804 Hillegass Ave. #1 Open 2-4

BERKELEY \$775,000
4/2 - Nestled in the hills. Enjoy views of Mt. Tam & the Bay from a large remodeled kitchen or spacious LR.
1238 Campus Drive Open 2-4:30

N. OAKLAND \$479,000
TRIPLEX - Attractive with lots of character! Two 1BR and one 2+BR. Excellent access on a quiet street.
653-55 54th Street Open 2-4:30

OAKLAND \$749,000
4/2.5 - Brand new architect designed home in the hills. quiet cul-de-sac, high-end appliances.
2811 Steinmetz Way Open 2-4

N. OAKLAND \$499,000
Duplex/SFH - Vacant Edwardian with yard awaits your TLC. Close to UC, BART, restaurants.
437-39 65th Street Open 2-4

BERKELEY \$279,000
NEW LISTING! 2/1 - 1025 Kains Avenue. Call to: www.RedOakProperties.com
1304 Dwight Way Open 2-4:30

BERKELEY \$399,000
NEW LISTING! 2/1 - Completely remodeled condo in Gourmet Ghetto. Hardwoods, fireplace, more!
1502 Milvia Street Open 2-4

OAKLAND \$240,000
NEW LISTING! 1/1 - Jazzy 840 sq. ft. loft with built-out mezzanine, skylites & more! www.saragarabedian.com
730-29th Street #C11 Open 2-4

OAKLAND \$389,000
NEW LISTING! 2/1.5 - 2-story brick penthouse condo. New paint, appliances, more!
801 Franklin Street #1436 Open 2-4

1891 Solano Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94707
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2983 College Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94705
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Crocker Highlands Tudor



1048 Underhills Road
Sunny light-filled split level English Tudor with lovely formal living room with vaulted ceilings and fireplace, formal dining, room, updated kitchen includes tiled counters and wood floor, breakfast room with original built-in, three bedrooms, one with French doors opening to private rear deck and garden.
Offered at \$645,000

For photos and more information about my listings:
www.doloresthom.com

Prudential
California Realty

Crocker Highlands Traditional



662 Longridge Road
Coming Soon
Beautiful stately residence with quality and style built in 1920 offers gorgeous kitchen with family room, gracious living and dining rooms, four bedrooms, two and one-half baths.
Available February 10th
Open Sunday, February 16th
Offered at \$995,000

Dolores Thom

(510) 834-2010 Office
(510) 763-1710 Home office
(510) 835-6080 Voice Mail

Open Sunday February 9, 2-4:30



834 Carlston Avenue
Classic English Tudor style, this Crocker Highlands 3BR/2.5BA home has character and a traditional central hall floor plan. The rooms are generous with lovely windows and hardwood floors. A beautiful backyard is level with patio and expansive lawn.

Offered at \$765,000

Donna Costella

Senior Sales Consultant. (510) 338-1355



just ask our clients

pacunion.com

Open Sunday, February 9, 2-4 PM

2834 Shasta Road in the Berkeley Hills

\$525,000

This spacious 3 bedroom rancher sits on a huge lot in a peaceful hills setting. The garage has been converted to a large family room with a cozy wood-burning stove and the kitchen has been updated. It needs some work but is worth the effort.



Heidi & Jerry Long 510/835-6218

www.heidiandjerry.com



Another one... Just Listed - Crocker Highlands



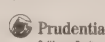
Sunny and bright three bedroom, one bath bungalow located on quiet street in desirable neighborhood. Features include hardwood floors, formal dining room, stylishly remodeled kitchen with stainless steel appliances and granite counters, basement bonus room for office or playroom, backyard with hot tub & attached garage with interior access. A charming 1920's home.

Open Sunday - February 9 ~ 1:30 to 5:00 PM

1253 Holman Road
Offered at \$589,000

Photos and more information about my listings @
www.doloresthom.com

Dolores Thom
(510) 834-2010 Office
(510) 763-1710 Home office
(510) 835-6080 Voice Mail



The GRUBB Co.



44 Kingston Road, Kensington

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Spectacular great room with stone fireplace is the heart and soul of this spacious home. The traditional floor plan has grand living spaces, four bedrooms two baths upstairs, a guest bedroom or au-pair on the main level with separate entrance, rumpus room and Bay views from the terrace. A graceful Oak tree frames this large corner lot and level garden.

Offered at \$879,500



CHRIS COHN
339.0400/253
ccohn@grubbco.com
GRUBBCO.COM

LORI LOMBARDO
339.0400/316
llombardo@grubbco.com
GRUBBCO.COM



PACIFIC UNION

510.339.6460
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EMONT HILLS \$2,750,000

4118 MIDVALE AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
Details grace this newly built home. Beautiful views. Private setting. 5+bedrooms/4.5 baths. David Ichikawa x1331

CLAIR \$1,495,000

4118 MIDVALE AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
This two-year-old home set on a large knoll with top-of-the-world Bay views. Complete with terraces and sweeping lawns. 4BR/2.5BA. David Ichikawa x1305

CLAIR \$1,250,000

4118 MIDVALE AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
Stylish new home w/high ceilings, artistic stonework. Large family room w/garden. Close to Montclair Village. David Ichikawa x1331

CLAIR \$920,000

4118 MIDVALE AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
Enjoy S. F. & G.G. Bridge views. 3BR/2.5BA w/ fabulous great room living room w/fireplace, dining area overlooking the bay. Holstlaw x1312.

CLAIR \$899,000

4118 MIDVALE AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
Village. Stunning 2 yr. old home with interior finishes & landscaping spaces. 3BR/2.5BA, family room. Nancy Moore x1302

CLAIR \$899,000

4118 MIDVALE AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
2 year old contemporary with large expansive canyon views. David Ichikawa x1305

CLAIR \$895,000

4118 MIDVALE AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
Carefully crafted contemporary 3.5BA w/lovely bay & hill views. 3BR/2.5BA w/spacious kitchen/terrace. Ashley O'Neill x1368

ROCKRIDGE \$799,000

6221 HILLEGASS AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
4+BR/2.5BA. Beautiful traditional built in 1915. Can be 2 units. Cook's kitchen. Lovely garden. Nancy Noman x1373

HILLER HIGHLANDS \$775,000

1 BINNACLE HILL (Open 2-4:30)
3+BR/3BA. Fabulous remodel! Three suites. Loft and Bay view. Francis Heath x1357



CROCKER HIGHLANDS \$765,000

834 CARLSTON AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
New listing! English Tudor style 3BR/2.5BA w/generous rooms, lovely windows & hardwood floors. Beautiful backyard w/ expansive lawn. Donna Costella x1355

MONTCLAIR \$759,000

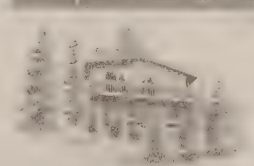
6464 GIRVIN AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
New listing! 4BR/3.5BA, w/much privacy. Soaring ceilings, sylvan views & quality materials. Charlotte Boyle x1370 & Helen Danhaki 547-5750



MONTCLAIR \$749,000

6085 COLTON BLVD. (Open 2-4:30)
New listing! Wonderful Traditional with 3 bridge views & yard. 3+BR/2BA. Family room, updated kitchen. Dick Cohen x1308 & Sandi Klemmer x1314

Open Sunday



OAKLAND \$649,000

3230 ROBINSON DR. (Open 2-4:30)
New listing! Marvelous shingled contemporary w/beautiful Bay view. 3BR/2BA plus a large loft. Kathleen Callahan x1343

MONTCLAIR \$649,000

6625 LONGWALK DR. (Open 2-4:30)
Quintessential Montclair downslope w/canyon views. 4+BR/2BA. Den could be 5th BR. New decks. New paint in 6 out. Great storage space. Ann Nichols x1319



UPPER OAKMORE \$649,000

2332 BYWOOD DR. (Open 2-4:30)
New listing! Wonderful traditional in great area. 3BR/3BA, formal dining room, rec. room w/bar, breakfast room leading to level patio and yard. Dee Knowland x1318

MONTCLAIR \$599,000

5708 MERRIWOOD DR. (Open 2-4:30)
Montclair charmer in sunny private setting. 3BR/2BA fireplace, hot tub, level lawn area. Wendy Gardner x1303

BERKELEY \$575,000

1901 GRANT ST. (Open 2-4:30)
New listing! Sunny Craftsman. Separate studio. Large deck/garden. Easy access to BART, shopping, coffee. 3BR/1BA. Jack McPhail x1336

Open Sunday



REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$539,000

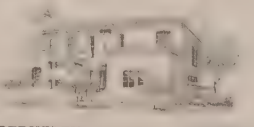
4601 STAUFFER PL. (Open 2-4:30)
Beautiful 3BR/2.5BA home. Remodeled kitchen w/breakfast room, large family room. Tree views from every room. 2-car garage. Diane Earl McCan x1352

MONTCLAIR \$525,000

1900 MOUNTAIN BLVD. #2 (Open 2-4:30)
New listing! Spectacular 2BR/2BA unit! Spacious & light! Vaulted ceiling, fireplace, skylights, cook's kitchen, terracotta patio! Leslie Gordon x1327

REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$519,000

4225 MIDVALE AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
First time on market. Spacious 3BR/2BA contemporary. Fireplace in family room. Beautiful random plank hardwood floors. Large 2-car garage. Kathy Flynn x1317



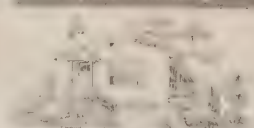
BERKELEY \$495,000

885 COLUSA AVE. (Open 2-4:00)
Once Masonic Temple now modern condos. 1+BR/1.5BA, two levels, big deck, peek of the Bay. Leslie Easterday x1363

REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$475,000

3523 VICTOR AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
Partial Bay views. Open, flowing floor plan. 3+BR/2BA. 2 Fireplaces, 2 decks & updated kitchen! Lorri Arazi x1330

Open Sunday



REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$465,000

4118 MIDVALE AVE. (Open 2-5)
Beautifully remodeled 2+BR/2BA w/ stunning Bay views. Formal dining, updated kitchen, fabulous deck, large sunny yard. Christian Downer x1340

OAKLAND HILLS \$359,000

3824 COLUMBIAN DR. (Open 2-5)
Bright sunny 2BR/1BA bungalow w/hardwood flrs, formal DR, eat-in kitchen & 1-car garage w/breakfast room. Lots of light & great yard. Cute! Vicki Woodhead x1334

RICHMOND HILLTOP \$299,000

2932 OXFORD AVE. (Open 2-4)
New listing! Inviting & updated 3BR/2BA home w/open plan family room/kitchen, 2 fireplaces, pretty private gardens, hardwood floors. Leslie Avant x1341

By Appointment



PIEDMONT \$1,650,000

Large, graceful 4+BR/2+BA traditional home. Includes library, 1,000 bottle wine cellar, sewing room, study, deck, and beautiful backyard. Debi Fitzgerald x1306

UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$1,095,000

Bay view lot, privacy. Approximately 12,800 square feet. One mile walk to BART. David Ichikawa x1331.

UPPER OAKMORE \$629,000

Charming traditional 3BR/2BA with stunning Bay views, family room, fabulous deck & yard with level lawn area & patio. Donna Costella x1355.

OAKLAND \$299,000

Charming 2+BR/1.5BA Monterey colonial style home in a friendly neighborhood, huge yard, Lanai, even a well! Don't miss out on this one! Fritz Hochfelner x1348

BERKELEY LOT \$250,000

Gentle upslope in sought-after North Berkeley location w/SF view. Nancy Noman x1373

Sales

FROM PAGE B12

LOWEST PRICE: \$375,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$592,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$483,500

OAKLAND

TOTAL SALES: 114
LOWEST PRICE: \$85,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,377,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$357,667

MIDMONT

TOTAL SALES: 5
LOWEST PRICE: \$600,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,136,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$828,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$800,200

RICHMOND

TOTAL SALES: 23
LOWEST PRICE: \$157,500
HIGHEST PRICE: \$650,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$350,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$340,370

SAN LEANDRO

TOTAL SALES: 35
LOWEST PRICE: \$228,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$689,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$365,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$394,871

SAN LORENZO

TOTAL SALES: 12
LOWEST PRICE: \$310,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$465,000

AVERAGE PRICE: \$372,250

This list is provided by California Resource, a real estate information company that obtains the information from the County Recorder's Office. Neither California Resource

nor this newspaper guarantees the completeness or accuracy of the information. All questions should be directed to CalRE-

PLEASE RE

MILLSTEIN & ASSOCIATES presents



1520 Rose - Berkeley **Open Sun. 2-4**
3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Charming 1920's home with original period details. Walk to North Berkeley BART, Monterey Market, Northbrae shops. **\$535,000**

Gene Millstein
(510) 527-8822
www.MillsteinAssociates.com



Learn How You Can Work a Normal Work Week and Still Earn a High 6-Figure Income in Real Estate

EAST BAY AREA - Changes in the real estate industry, and the market at large, have made it tough for agents to earn a decent living while achieving any kind of balance in their lives, outside their jobs. In fact, the largest proportion of agents practicing real estate in North America in the new decade are working a minimum of 60-70 hours a week, and many are casualties of the high rate of burn out, bankruptcy and broken relationships that bound the industry.

If you're tired of the endless cold-calling, prospecting and rejection, and yearn to live a normal life with a decent income, you're not alone. And yet the balance required to achieve this

goal has eluded most. There is a much easier way to get ahead in this industry. Local real estate entrepreneur Dave Higgins has developed an entirely new and innovative approach to real estate sales. Higgins has created what he calls the *Real Estate Office of the Future*, which makes winners of not only the members of his team (all of whom should take home over \$100,000 a year), but also of his customers.

If you'd like to earn big money in much less time while helping your customers get more for their homes, fax your resume in confidence to (510) 217-3489.

Dave Higgins, Prudential California Realty

The GRUBB Co.



77 Eucalyptus Rd., Berkeley/Oakland
COMING SOON. Architect designed one-level home in the prestigious Claremont neighborhood! Two bedrooms, study, two full baths, two car garage. Beautifully remodeled with gourmet kitchen and Bay view.
Offered at \$695,000

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5731 El Dorado Ave. ~ El Cerrito

Welcome to this very charming, sun-filled, updated 1+ bedroom home w/separate adjoining lot. You will especially love the exquisitely, professionally landscaped enchanting gardens. Many upgrades, partial basement, 2 car garage, plus room and beautiful territorial views. Close proximity to BART, Solano Ave., freeway & the new El Cerrito Mall.

Offered at \$365,000

For more information:



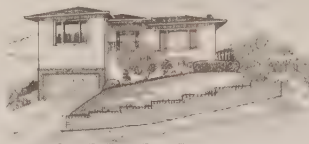
Denise Milburn
VM (510) 524-1700 x35
Visit a photo tour of this lovely property at www.berkhills.com



www.berkhills.com ■ 510.524.9888

Upper Oakmore

Open Sunday February 9, 2-4:30 pm



2332 Bywood Drive

Wonderful 3BR/3BA Oakmore traditional in a fabulous location. Featuring a formal dining room, hardwood floors, recreation room/bar, level patio and yard. Well maintained. Don't miss!

Offered at \$649,000



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Simple Elegance at \$699,950.00

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| Area: | Canyon Crest |
| Style: | Contemporary |
| Stories: | 2 |
| Square Feet: | 2758 |
| Lot Size: | .12 |
| Year Built: | 1989 |
| Parking: | 3 Car Garage |
| Exterior: | Stucco |
| Roof: | Shake |
| Heating: | Central |
| A/C: | Central |
| Fireplace: | Family room |
| Bedrooms: | 4 |
| Bathrooms: | 3 |
| Master Bdrm: | Large w/Walk-In Closet |
| Living Room: | Formal |
| Dining Room: | Formal |
| Family Room: | With Fireplace |
| Kitchen: | Gourmet |
| Laundry: | Inside |
| Other: | Cal-de-sac |
| A/C: | Central |
| Other: | Side Yard Access |
| | Living Room View of Hills |
| School District: | San Ramon |



Stunning 4 bed 3 bath, 3 car garage home located at the end of a cul-de-sac with views of red hills. Open space floor plan with laundry plus one bedroom and bath downstairs. Master includes walk-in closet, sunken tub and balcony. Call a private showing

David Dufresne

Realty World/Real Estate Solutions

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Coming Soon

5922 Acacia ...Elegant Upper Rockridge Mediterranean with views, large spacious rooms & indoor-outdoor living. (Open House Next Sunday 2/16)

Coming Soon

116 El Cerrito...Large Piedmont home across from Dracena Park with legal in-law. (Open House Sunday 2/23)

Pending.....2642 Webster - Elmwood

Just Sold.....105 Sonia - Rockridge

Just Sold.....80 Vicente - Claremont

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- East Bay

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Splendid Kensington redo with glowing open spaces, magnificent kitchens & fabulous gardens! 2 great homes on 1 Kensington lot: 4BD/3BA main house features Bay views - 1BD rear is fully featured view home as well, beautifully finished & an ideal rental, grand in-law or luxurious home office. **\$995,000**

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BERKELEY
1811 - 8th STREET
Charming 4/2.5 craftsman totally remodeled new kitchen, appliances, baths, and windows. Attached garage. Walk to tennis courts, 4th Street shops, restaurants.
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MONTCLAIR WINNER
8545 SKYLINE BLVD.
\$595,000

Vaulted ceilings, canyon views, three bedrooms, two baths and rumpus room. Hot tub, serenity. Walk to park, drive within minutes to the village.

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marvin gardens real estate

 1577 Solano Ave. Berkeley • (510) 527-2700	 OAKLAND, 386 Oakland Ave. \$499,000 BEAUTIFUL BROWN SHINGLE! Lovingly remodeled with new fireplace, gorgeous inlaid hardwood floors and huge rooms. 3+ bedrooms, 2 full baths, office, garage. Formal entry, formal dining room, spacious living room. Close to shops & transportation Open Sunday 2-5 Richard Morrison 527-2700 x34	 BERKELEY, 1595 Euclid Avenue \$400,000 Condo with a view! Spacious upper level unit with 2 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths. Wood floors and paneling, built-ins, fireplace. Good closets. Detached garage with remote. North Campus neighborhood. Gloria Polanski 292-3049	 RICHMOND VIEW, 6721 Richmond Ave. \$269,000 Rustic, cozy 2 bedroom cottage in quietest part of Richmond View, just steps from hiking trails. View of Wildcat Canyon Park from both bedrooms. Wood-burning stove in living room Open Sunday 2-4 Tom Modic 292-3052	RICHMOND ANNEX, 2017 San Marco Ave. \$318,000 New Listing! 1927 Bungalow. One bedroom plus sunny family room addition with Golden Gate Bridge view and small deck for enjoying sunsets. Large lot great for expansion or fabulous garden. Open Sunday 2-4 Joan Underwood 559-2911
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OAKLAND, 5495 Fairfax Ave.
\$300,000
First time on market! Three bedroom, one bath house. Lovingly maintained and freshly painted inside & out. Formal dining room, new windows and hardwood floors. Storage space galore!
Open Sunday 2-4
Crystal Elliot
292-3041

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Century 21 HERITAGE REAL ESTATE FINE HOMES & ESTATES

 OAKLAND \$1,585,000 An absolute dream home! Beautiful Victorian in Upper Rockridge. Five large bedrooms, 3 full baths. Master suite with marble bath and jetted tub, walk-in closet, marble fireplace, sitting room, and built-in dining room. The formal dining room, and built-in dining room. Close to shops & transportation Open Sunday 2-5 Richard Morrison 527-2700 x34	 MONTCLAIR \$649,000 'True Art Deco'. Level entry, level patio & gardens. Remodeled 1941 'Deco' with 3+ bedrooms, 2 baths, 'Great Room' and separate home office & family room. Hardwood, glass block & tile. Double garage with level inside access. One of a kind. Kate Castle	 KENSINGTON \$769,000 All level living in this totally remodeled home with an expansive SF/Golden Gate view. Tasteful & quality upgraded details throughout. Lots of wood, stone, glass, & stainless steel. Great yard too! Steven Biasatti	 UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$739,000 Charming Traditional in park-like setting. Spacious living room & dining room. Updated kitchen with sunny breakfast room, opens up to large deck with access to beautiful garden with fruit trees & patio. Adriana Giacomelli
 MILLER HIGHLANDS \$749,000 Enter through the double front doors & look down entrance hall to see the spectacular furnished SF/GO Bay view. Downslope on hillside. Cul-de-sac. Chef's eat-in kitchen. 3+ bedrooms, 2+ baths. Gayle Tantau	 MAXWELL PARK \$290,000 Potential galore for 2+1/1 corner lot! Two covered patios, fruit trees, garden. Corner cottage in rear! Angela Lawson	 LAKE MERRITT \$988,000 Spectacular views from every room of this luxurious 3 bedroom, 2 bath penthouse condominium. Floor to ceiling Lake view windows, massive gas log fireplace, atrium to the sky, paneled den, 400 square foot floral terrace & 24 hour doorman services are just a few of the amenities. By appointment only. Tom Erwin	 LAKE MERRITT \$650,000 Exceptionally bright and spacious top floor two bedroom, two bath condo in The Regatta. Beaux-Arts architectural detailing, massive fireplace, formal dining room and new hi-tech kitchen. All rooms have panoramic views. Tom Erwin
 PIEDMONT & COLLEGE AVE \$700,000 Two money-making units on level lot which will accommodate eleven condos or apts. Great location for shopping, bus, BART, dining. Quiet street along with prestige and convenience. Call for "proforma" and details. D.C. Hodges	 OAKLAND \$225,000 Spacious top floor two bedroom, one and one-half bath unit. Updated kitchen and baths with skylights. Marble entry and fireplace. Partial Bay view. Secured parking. Convenient location. Steven Biasatti	 OAKLAND/BERKELEY HILLS \$699,000 Stunning Contemporary 3+ bedroom, 3 bath. Canyon views from most rooms, gourmet kitchen, Brazilian hardwood floors. Level yard. Superb value in an area of expensive homes. Mahnaz Judson	 ORINDA \$1,200,000 Exquisite home with absolute attention to detail! This custom, 3+ bedroom, 3.5 bath home is offered by the original owner and was remodeled in 2001. Each feature was carefully selected by a top local designer! Call for a private showing. Bill Hickman
 OAKLAND \$249,999 Recently remodeled bungalow with lots of charm. Breakfast nook with built-ins, dining, fireplace, living room, hardwood floors throughout. Angela Lawson	 LAKE MERRITT \$495,000 Panoramic views from every room of this two bedroom, two bath condominium in Lake Merritt's famous landmark high-rise. Massive wood-burning fireplace, 9' ceilings, parquet floors, 24 hour doorman/valet services are some of the amenities included. Tom Erwin	 TEMESCAL \$549,000 Four-plex. All large 1 bedroom with two parking. Fred Bronson	<p>Why would you call anyone else? Free Pre-approval! **</p> <p>1-877-620-2021</p> <p>Financing provided by Centant Mortgage Corporation 3000 Leadshill Road, Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054. *Subject to verification of lender's price and other restrictions. Please contact us for details. Licensed by the Department of Corporations under the California Residential Mortgage Lending Act. **Subject to applicable secondary market credit and property approval guidelines.</p>

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Weekend OPEN HOMES

Open Sunday, unless otherwise indicated

www.contracostatimes.com

ALAMEDA

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
2943 Southwood Dr	3 - 1/2 -	2-4	\$825,000
Open Sunday Rita Real Estate	George J. Borlase	510-623-8555	
1262 Weber St	2 + 1/2	2-4	\$986,000
Open Sunday, Gold Coast The Home-Link Team		510-748-5300	
1829 Moreland Dr	380	2-4	\$679,000
Open Sat & Sun, Main Island Kane & Associates	Kristyenne Novak	510-463-1678	
1615 Paru	380/2.5BA	2-4	\$668,000
Open Sunday Harbor Bay Realty	Donna Williams	510-614-4828	
2 Lagorio Ct	380/2.5BA	2-4	\$640,000
Open Saturday & Sunday Harbor Bay Realty	Kristyenne Novak	510-614-4828	
21 Argus Ct	490/2.5BA	2-4	\$825,000
Open Saturday & Sunday Harbor Bay Realty	Darin Vinal	510-614-4828	
1335 Caroline St	4 - 80/2BA	2-4	\$618,000
Open Saturday & Sunday Harbor Bay Realty	Gregg Fujita	510-614-4708	
23 Avenida Landing	380	2-4	\$608,000
Open Sat & Sun, Harbor Bay Kane & Associates	Valerie Newman	510-623-7214	
1247 College Ave	380/2BA	1-3	\$600,000
Open Sunday, East End Continental Real Estate	Marci Roe	510-522-3215	
1317 East Shore	380/2BA	2-4	\$596,000
Open Sunday, www.openhomesalameda.com Gallagher & Lindsey	Dorothy Franchi	510-748-1131	
932 Mount St	380/2BA	2-4	\$598,000
Open Sunday, www.openhomesalameda.com Gallagher & Lindsey	Alice Darvin	510-748-1118	
505 Sand Hook Isle	380/2BA	2-4	\$679,000
Open Saturday & Sunday Harbor Bay Realty	Tim Marr	510-614-4817	
48 Britt Ct	380/2.5BA	2-4	\$675,000
Open Saturday & Sunday Harbor Bay Realty	Donna Williams	510-614-4828	
2329 Adams St	380/2BA	2-4	\$598,000
Open Sunday, The Home-Link Team		510-748-5300	
6 Ramon Ct	380/2.5BA	2-4	\$655,000
Open Saturday & Sunday Harbor Bay Realty	Donna Williams	510-614-4828	
1513 Pearl St	3 - 80/2BA	2-4	\$628,000
Open Saturday & Sunday Bicycle Real Estate	John 510-768-1808		
1605-1905 Wood St	2 + 1/2	2-4	\$625,000
Open Sat & Sun, Main Island Kane & Associates	Elizabeth Kane	510-622-0660	
2277 Encinal Ave	280/1BA	2-4	\$625,000
Open Saturday & Sunday Harbor Bay Realty	Joan Powers	510-614-4822	
137 Parfall Ln	280/2BA	2-4	\$498,500
Open Saturday & Sunday Harbor Bay Realty	Donna Williams	510-614-4828	
12 Radondo Ct	280	2-4	\$498,000
Open Sunday, Main Island Kane & Associates	Wendy Davis	510-622-0660	
2804 Farnside Blvd	2 + 2d/1BA	2-4	\$498,000
Open Saturday & Sunday Harbor Bay Realty	George Williams	510-622-7173	
1216 Rosewood	280	2-4	\$478,000
Open Saturday & Sunday Kane & Associates	Alan Lertzman	510-337-9413	
220 Santa Clara	380/1.5BA	2-4	\$448,500
Open Sat & Sun, www.openhomesalameda.com Gallagher & Lindsey	Ann Bracci	510-748-1108	
272 Centre Ct	280/2BA	2-4pm	\$448,000
Open Sunday, Harbor Bay Realty Polar Property	Wendy Davis	510-622-7173	
917 Centennial Ave	280	2-4	\$448,000
Open Sunday, Harbor Bay Realty	Margaret Lomb	510-614-4828	
909 San Antonio	280/1BA	2-4	\$441,900
Open Sunday, www.openhomesalameda.com Gallagher & Lindsey	Ann Bracci	510-748-1108	
2211 Sherrill Ave	280/9a	2-4	\$438,000
Open Sunday, Harbor Bay Realty	Steve Sorenson	510-614-4888	
3227 Cook Lane	380/2.5BA	2-4	\$437,500
Open Sunday, Islands The Home-Link Team		510-748-5300	
535 Piacere Ct	280/2BA	2-4	\$428,000
Open Sunday, Harbor Bay Realty	814 Boring	510-614-4818	
754 Buena Vista Ave	380/1.5BA	2-4	\$428,000
Open Saturday & Sunday Harbor Bay Realty	Donna Williams	510-614-4828	
1059 Foster St	280/2BA	1-5	\$425,000
Open Saturday & Sunday Santitas - Zola	510-623-2387		
1629 Lincoln	2 - 80	2-4	\$415,000
Open Sat & Sun, Main Island Kane & Associates	Karen Kullerberger	510-622-0660	
301 Broadway #302	280/2BA	2-4	\$395,000
Open Sunday, www.openhomesalameda.com Gallagher & Lindsey	Shelie McKel	510-748-1117	
2515 Central Ave #104	280/2BA	2-4	\$374,900
Open Sunday, www.openhomesalameda.com Gallagher & Lindsey	Shelie McKel	510-748-1117	
301 Broadway #207	280/2BA	2-4	\$328,000
Open Sunday Agent: 514-47-2000			

ALAMEDA

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
1321 Webster St #D307	180/1BA	2-4	\$228,000
Open Sunday Bicycle Real Estate	John 510-768-1808		
968 Shorepoint #215	180	2-4	\$225,000
Open Sunday, Main Island Kane & Associates	Joanna Lettice	510-623-6058	
1321 Webster St #105	180/1BA	2-4	\$188,000
Open Sunday Prudential CA Realty	John Abbott	510-218-8334	

ALBANY

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
1054 Talbot Ave	380/2.5BA Sun 2-4:30		\$489,000
Bayridge Realty, Michael Fisher	510-624-3333		
1025 Kalina Ave	280/1BA Sun 2-4		\$378,000
RED OAK, Jeanne Longpradre	510-280-2106		
717 Buchanan St	280/1BA Sun 1-3		\$335,000
Albany A25entbay.com Assist-2-Sell	Howard Kane	510-630-8330	

BERKELEY

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
959 Miller Avenue	580/3.5BA Sun 2-4		\$1,475,000
A. Holloway & L. Mullins	Botheby's Intl.	416-288-2263	
760 Wildcat Canyon Rd	480/2BA Sun 2-4		\$846,000
Berkeley Hills Realty, Moysa Trilling	510-624-9889		
123 Parkside Drive	480/3.5BA Sun 2-4:30		\$846,000
The Grubb Co. C. Jones P. Tompkins	510-632-2133		
397 Vassar Ave	480/2.5 Sun 1-4		\$790,000
California State Realty, Inc.	Gregory Goldstein	416-763-2400	
1238 Campus Dr	480/2BA Sun 2-4:30		\$775,000
RED OAK, Nodda Chung	510-280-2167		
1981 Tunnel Rd	1 + 1/2d/2BA Sun 2-4		\$698,000
Berkeley Hills Realty, Michael Fisher	510-624-3333		
1521 Spruce Street	480/2BA Sun 2-4:30		\$688,000
The Grubb Co. Anne Fests	510-339-0400		
1111 Shattuck Ave.	380/2BA Sun 2-4:30		\$628,000
The Grubb Co. Wendy Sprague	510-632-2133		
1111 Heald St	380/2.5 Sun 1-4		\$598,000
RED OAK, Robin Kingsbury	510-280-2108		
1901 Grant St	380/1BA Sun 2-4		\$575,000
Berkeley Pacific Union	Jack McPhail	510-338-1336	
2824 Shasta Road	380/1 + 1/2 Sun 2-4		\$525,000
RED OAK, Heidi & Jerry Lang	510-635-8219		
885 Colusa	1 - 80/1.5 Sun 2-4		\$486,000
Berkeley Pacific Union	Leslie Eastard	510-338-1363	
2804 Hilegass Ave	1 1/2d/2BA Sun 2-4		\$388,000
RED OAK, Kate Gair	510-280-2121		
1502 Milvia St	280/1BA Sun 2-4		\$388,000
RED OAK, Tom Cone	510-280-2104		
1443 Russell	280/1BA Sun 1-4		\$388,000
Prudential, Jeanette Vento	510-645-0211		
2016 A Kern St	2 + 2d/2BA Sun 2-4:30		\$388,000
At Home & Hg, 510-465-9225			
2285 Cedar St	1 + 1/2d/2BA Sun 2-4:30		\$388,000
RED OAK, Merritt Levine	510-280-2127		
1500 Milvia	280/1BA Sun 2-4		\$375,000
RED OAK, Marc Gony	510-628-2153		
5731 El Dorado	1 + 1/2d/2BA Sun 2-4:30		\$365,000
Berkeley Hills Realty, Dennis Milburn	510-624-8888		
2601 College #204	280/2BA Sun 2-4:30		\$338,000
Prudential, 510-868-1400			

CASTRO VALLEY

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
5587 Greenridge Rd	480/2BA	2-4	\$828,000
Open Saturday & Sunday Harbor Bay Realty	Mark Playsted	510-614-4874	

EL CERRITO

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
1957 Snowden	8 + 1/2BA Sun 2-4		\$699,950
Coldwell Banker, Franca Falcetta	510-627-0372		
1760 Liberty St #3	280/2BA Sun 2-4		\$289,500
Coldwell Banker, Lynda Barlow	510-232-1462		

EMERYVILLE

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
1500 Park Ave, #311	180/1BA	1-5	\$368,000
Open Sunday			
Coldwell Banker, Elena Stone	510-338-4700		
59 Emery Bay Dr	380/2BA Sun 2-4		\$348,000
Thornhill Properties, Naomi Kane	510-848-1950		

HAYWARD

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
14070 Estaban St	380/2BA Sun 12-4		\$423,000
Tony Wright	Helpful! East Bay	510-251-9000	
22750 Sixth St	380/1.5BA Sun 12-4		\$344,950
Tony Wright	Helpful! East Bay	510-251-9000	
23826 Carmelita Dr	280/1BA	1-4	\$288,000
Open Sunday Alameda Realty	Carol Knight	510-648-8844	

KENSINGTON

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
44 Kingston Rd.	4 - 80/3BA Sun 2-4:30		\$679,500
Kennington The Grubb Co. C. Cohn & L. Lombardo	510-338-0400		
284 Columbia Ave.	1 + 80/2BA Sun 2-4:30		\$638,000
Open Sunday Better Homes	Carolyn Roman	510-338-8400	



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The Journal & The Alameda Journal
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OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
37 Dean St	6 + 1/2d/2BA Sun 2-4:30		\$2,750,000
Clifford Hill David Ichikawa	510-338-1331		
37 Miller Drive	480/3.5BA Sun 2-4:30		\$1,996,000
Hilltop Heights The Grubb Co. Sheila Gallagher	510-652-2133		
1130 Drury Road	480/4.5BA Sun 2-4:30		\$1,725,000
Wells & Bennett Peter Nicolopoulos	510-631-7000		
95 Westminster Dr.	480/3 - BA Sun 2-4:30		\$1,695,000
Coldwell Banker, Karen Lum	510-338-4700		
6500 Gwin Road	3 - 80/3.5BA Sun 2-4:30		\$1,495,000
Pacific Union Teri Carlisle	510-338-1305		
3 Contra Costa Place	4 + 1/2d/2BA Sun 2-4:30		\$1,495,000
Prudential, Alec Gauthier/Wide Robinson	510-428-9900		
5932 Contra Costa Rd.	480/3.5BA Sun 2-4:30		\$1,478,000
Upper Rockledge The Grubb Co. Carolyn Jones	510-338-0400		
1226 Mountain Blvd.	480/3.5BA Sun 2-4:30		\$1,250,000
Pacific Union David Ichikawa	510-338-1331		
7044 Norfolk Rd.	480/2.5BA Sun 2-4:30		\$1,225,000
Clifford Hill The Grubb Co. Ronald Egherman	510-652-2133		
6559 Charming Cross	480/3.5BA Sun 2-4:30		\$1,200,000
Clifford Hill Wells & Bennett Heidi Ramsey	510-631-7000		
6980 Norfolk Rd.	480/4.5BA Sun 2-4:30		\$1,150,000
Clifford Hill The Grubb Co. Jill Carrigan	510-652-2133		
9048 Broadway Terrace	480/2.5BA Sun 2-4:30		\$1,150,000
Clifford Hill The Grubb Co. Mindy Scott	510-338-0400		
6161 Harbor Dr.	480/3.5BA Sun 2-4:30		\$1,148,000
Monclair (Piedmont Side) The Grubb Co. Debra J. Dryden	510-338-0400		
5740 Colton Blvd.	480/3.5BA Sun 2-4:30		\$1,100,000
Clifford Hill, Open Sunday Coldwell Banker	Bonnie Conroy	510-338-4700	
3319 Robinson Dr.	480/3.5BA Sun 2-4:30		\$1,095,000
Clifford Hill The Grubb Co. Anne VanDyke	510-652-2133		
5535 Masonic Ave.	480/4BA Sun 2-4		\$985,000
Rockledge, Open Sunday Better Homes	Michael Thompson	510-338-8400	
5295 Lawton Ave.	4 + 80/1 - Sun 1-5		\$928,000
www.5295lawton.com Ron Kees	Lawton Associates	510-547-5870	
80 Sheridan Dr.	3 + 1/2d/2BA Sun 2-4:30		\$922,000
Prudential, California Realty, Rosalee Marshall	510-845-4211		
6890 Exeter Drive	3 + 80/2.5BA Sun 2-4:30		\$898,000
Pacific Union Teri Carlisle	510-338-1305		
6615 Elverton Dr	380/2BA Sun 2-4:30		\$898,000
Prudential, Michael	510-280-4290		
7445 Woodrow Dr.	3 - 80/2.5BA Sun 2-4:30		\$898,000
Pacific Union Nancy Moore	510-338-1302		
4444 Oak Hill Rd.	580/4.5BA Sun 2-4:30		\$898,000
Oakland Hills, Open Sunday Coldwell Banker	David Eckert	510-338-4700	
6079 Colton Blvd.	480/4BA Sun 2-4:30		\$898,000
Wells & Bennett Kato Phillips	510-631-7000		
5745 Merriewood Dr.	480/3.5BA Sun 2-4:30		\$895,000
Monclair Pacific Union	Ashley O'Neill	510-338-1368	
118 Parkside Dr.	2 + 2d/2BA Sun 2-4:30		\$850,000
Prudential, Montclair, Grubb/Hartford	510-338-8290		
5590 Ocean View Dr.	480/1.5BA Sun 2-4:30		\$848,000
Rockledge, Open Sunday Better Homes	Mary Jane McConnell	510-338-8400	
6221 Hillgass Ave.	4 + 80/2.5BA Sun 2-4:30		\$798,000
Rockledge Pacific Union	Nancy Roman	510-338-1373	

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
1 Binnacle Hill Hill Highlands Francis Heath	3 - 80/3BA Sun	2-4:30 (510) 338-1357	\$775,000
266-270 Santa Rosa Triplex Wells & Bennett Claire Selick	Top/bas Sun	2-4:30 510-631-7000	\$789,000
842 Mandana Blvd. Crocker Highlands, Open Sunday Coldwell Banker	480/3 - BA Brian Hyner	2-4:30 (510) 338-4700	\$789,000
834 Carlton Ave. Upper Rockledge Pacific Union	380/2.5BA Sun	2-4:30 510-338-1355	\$785,000
6454 Gilvin Ave. Upper Rockledge Pacific Union	480/3.5BA Sun	2-4:30 510-338-1355	\$788,000
12 Yankee Hill Hill Clifford Hill R.E.	380/2BA Sun	2-4 510-338-9900	\$748,000
2811 Steinmetz Way RED OAK, Marc Gony	480/2.5 Sun	2-4 510-280-2103	\$748,000
1735 Trebble Glen Rd. Upper Rockledge The Grubb Co.	380/2BA Sun	2-4:30 (510) 338-0400	\$748,000
4401 Harbor Drive Upper Rockledge The Grubb Co.	3 - 80/2 - Sun	2-4:30 (510) 338-0400	\$748,000
6085 Colton Blvd. Upper Rockledge Pacific Union	3 - 80/2BA Sun	2-4:30 (510) 338-0400	\$748,000
5515 Harbor Dr. Hill Antonia Giacomelli, C21 Heritage	380/2ba Sun	2-5 510-339-9154	\$739,000
2734-2728 Harrison St. Prudential, Heather Smith	480/2ba Sun	1-4 510-945-0211	\$729,000
5517 Maxwellton Road Prudential-Steinberg, KFF Realty	380/2ba Sun	510-287-9050 510-536-5399	\$725,000
2011 Breasler Rd. Open Sat. & Sun Hill	5 bd/3 ba RED MAX EXC	1-5 925-382-1611	\$678,000
200 Lakeside Dr. #802 Lower Rockledge C21 Heritage R.E.	2bd/2ba Sun	2-4:30 510-338-9900	\$650,000
1328 Trebble Glen Prudential, Claire Cunningham	380/1ba Sun	2-4:30 510-287-9050	\$650,000
2730 Heartwood Dr. C21 Heritage R.E.	3 - 1bd/2ba Sun	1:30-4:30 510-339-9772	\$649,000
401 Oak Hill Open Sunday Better Homes	380/2BA A.B.	2-4:30 510-338-9400	\$649,000
404 Mountain Blvd. Mortgage, Open Sunday Better Homes	380/2BA Michael Thompson	2-5 510-339-9400	\$648,000
2332 Bywood Dr. Pacific Union	3 - 80/3BA Sun	2-4:30 (510) 338-1357	\$648,000
417 Florence Ave. Upper Rockledge The Grubb Co.	3 - 80/2BA Sun	2-4:30 The Ratcliffe	\$648,000
6525 Longwalk Dr. Mortgage Pacific Union	4 - 80/2BA Sun	2-4:30 Ann Nichols	\$648,000
3230 Robinson Dr. Pacific Union	380/2BA Sun	2-4:30 Kathleen Callahan	\$648,000
1048 Dunsmuir Hill RED Crocker-Highlands Prudential California Realty, Dorcas Thon	3bd/1ba Sun	1:30-5 510-445-0010	\$646,000
545 Jean St. Michael Vales, Vales Realty	380/1+6BA s u n 2 - 4 B&B	510-451-7317	\$619,000
708 Marriewood Dr. Mortgage Pacific Union	380/2BA Sun	2-4:30 Wendy Gardner	\$599,000
439 46th St. RED OAK, Jennifer Leach	Top/bas Sun	2-4 510-932-0004	\$599,000
5283 Harbor Dr. Upper Rockledge, Open Sunday Better Homes	2 + 1/2 - 2-5 Michael Thompson	510-338-9400	\$595,000
383 61st St. Upper Rockledge, Open Sunday Upper Rockledge	2 - 1bd/1ba Sun	2-4:30 510-338-1355	\$590,000

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Open Sunday 2/9

Featured Property



UPPER ROCKRIDGE CHARMER! \$935,000

Classic traditional with architectural charm and a magical garden! Great for entertaining with french doors opening to a spacious deck and Bar-B-Que. 4 - bedrooms / 4 - baths and a family room. 5535 Masonic Ave. Upper Rockridge

Michael Thompson 510-339-8400



ROCKRIDGE CRAFTSMAN... \$849,000

Showcases the finest Craftsman details from a bygone era; exotic wood wainscoting, mahogany box-beamed ceilings, built-in cabinets and bookshelves with leaded glass. This special home offering four bedrooms, formal dining, attic, library and updated kitchen is a short walk to College Avenue and BART. 5690 Ocean View Dr.

www.maryjanemcconville.com 510-339-8400

VIEW FROM EVERY ROOM \$649,000
One of the most beautiful updated properties in the area 3-bed / 2-bath / 2-car garage great neighborhood. 4101 Oak Hill Rd.

A. D. Nassiri 510-339-4000

Open Sunday 2/9

UPDATED AND REMODELED \$649,000
This Montclair 3-Bedroom / 2-Bath home has a newer eat-in kitchen and master bath. This home features granite countertops, top quarter fixtures, appliances, gleaming oak hardwood floors and fireplace. 440 Mountain Blvd. Open 2-5

Michael Thompson 510-339-8400



FABULOUS 3 BRIDGE VIEW \$639,000

Cooks, hikers, gardeners this is for you. Remodeled 3-bedrooms, 2-bath home, skylights, top line kitchen, hardwood floors, wine cellar, potential media room, walk or bike to Tilden Park, close to Village shops. 284 Columbia Ave. Kensington

Carolynn Hartley 510-339-8400

UPPER ROCKRIDGE TRADITIONAL! \$595,000
Charming 2+4 bedroom / 1+ Bath traditional with separate office / den and downstairs family room; fireplace And Hardwood Floors; Light & Bright. 5283 Harbord Dr. Open 2-5

Michael Thompson 510-339-8400



COME AND SMELL THE ROSES! \$595,000

Roses and more surround the glorious garden of this beautifully detailed two plus bedroom. Rockridge craftsman bungalow. Brimming with architectural treasures... natural woodwork, oak floors, built-in cabinets, stone fireplace... a dream come true! BART, shopping nearby. 393 61st St.

www.maryjanemcconville.com 510-339-8400

Open Sunday 2/9

SWEET GLENVIEW CHARMER \$485,000
boasts pride of ownership from the lovely landscaped yards to the craftsman details throughout. Walking distance to shops, restaurants and transportation it offers a bright floorplan, refinished hardwood floors, large eat in kitchen and much, much more.

1046 Elbert St.

Nahid Nassiri 510-339-8400



ESTUDILLO ESTATE TUDOR FIXER \$409,000

with future coveted creekside location in San Leandro. Parquet floors, mahogany door and trim, plus major expansion potential. Needs TLC.

796 Cary Dr. San Leandro

Earle Shenk 510-339-4000



CHARMER IN N. SAN LEANDRO \$355,000

Sun filled 2 bedroom / 1 bath, classic Broadmoor bungalow offers quality kitchen and bath remodels, refinished hardwood floors, wraparound deck over looking large yard. Easy BART and freeway access. 902 Alice Ave. San Leandro

Earle Shenk 510-339-4000

By Appointment

DARE TO DREAM \$1,333,000
West side Danville; private, gated 3000 sq. ft. Mediterranean home, panoramic views of Mt. Diablo from almost every room. Located on 1 1/2 acres surrounded by a vineyard & many fruit trees, this 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home includes formal living & dining rooms, family room, large pool & pool room & built-in outdoor BBQ.

Danville Better Homes 925-837-2200

NEW ON MARKET! DANVILLE! \$879,950
Large 4 bedroom, 3 bath custom home. Approximately 2,770 sq. ft. at end of court location. Approximately 1/3 acre lot with views, backing to open space. Beautiful large kitchen with sunny breakfast nook. 3-car garage.

Danville Better Homes 925-837-2200

DANVILLE CREST... \$849,000
4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, updated and bright kitchen with breakfast area. New carpeting throughout most of home, high ceilings, new landscaping, level yard with views.

Danville Better Homes 925-837-2200

GORGEOUS RANCH HOME \$649,000
3 bedrooms, 2 baths plus den, mature and manicured landscaping, beautiful kitchen, wood cabinets, spacious living area, backs to meandering creek and feeling of privacy. Beautiful remodeled master bathroom.

Danville Better Homes 925-837-2200



RETAIL SPACE PLUS RESIDENTIAL \$599,000

Income opportunity. Drive by 3227 West Street then call us. Retail tenant has beer & wine license. Brisk business on thoroughfare with busy foot traffic.

Rosemary Greene 510-287-9599

By Appointment

TOPOF THE HILL CALIFORNIA RANCH
4 bedroom and 2.5 bath in Crestmont with pool. One owner and in move-in condition.

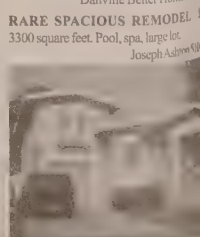
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Featuring 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, approx. 2097 sq. ft. Formal dining room & elegant room plus den/office or exercise room leading to back. Family room also adjacent to kitchen. Plantation shutters, blinds, duets, new floors within last 5 years, new exterior paint and much more.

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3300 square feet. Pool, spa, large lot.

Joseph Adams 510-339-8400



SPACIOUS 3-BR + BA CRAFTSMAN

Yes, all the 1920's original built-ins and still intact. Beautiful FP in the LR. Big yard perfect for summer barbecue. 1500 sq. ft.

Garry / Noni Robinson 510-339-8400

OWNERSHIP IN BERKELEY

Wonderfully cared for condo, close to shops, UC and Highway 80.

Todd Emley 510-339-8400

SPORTS

• Friday, February 7, 2003 •

Section C

Berkeley boys are feeling fine back at home on their own turf

Yellow Jackets find their zone on their artificial surface and rout

Mike McGreehan
STAFF WRITER

BERKELEY — Back in the days when artificial turf was all but unheard of, it was not uncommon for baseball fans to speak of "turf teams" or "AstroTurf teams." Perhaps those same notions translate to other sports.

Berkeley High School plays home matches on its AstroTurf-covered football field. The teams have done well on the synthetic surface.

Berkeley High boys even

themselves as the greatest

on turf.

AL NOTEBOOK

phomore
king on
ring role

Orlando Molina
TIMES STAFF WRITER

ardless if the Pinole Valley High School girls basketball makes it to North Coast State, the efforts of point guard Jonelle Smith cannot go

ed. In her own quiet way, the 15-year-old sophomore managed to explode as the top scorer. And barring a sophomore slump, she likely will hold the title until the end of the season.

She's a very hard worker, demanding upon herself. She doesn't take the easy way out. She gets coach Dan O'Shea's team captain.

At the start of the week, Smith accumulated 396 points in games and was 78 percent on the line. But the true irony is Smith, a shooting guard her freshman year, took point guard and still was not put up her monster number.

very surprised at my success. I should have had more opportunities as a point guard," Smith said. "I

see ACCAL, Page 2

AL NOTEBOOK

panthers'
ing shot
answered

By Scott Strain
STAFF WRITER

What exactly happened in the moments of the Salema Mary's high school boys basketball game last Friday

received little publicity, but the Larry Gurganious half-court shot at the end of the game beat the Chieftains 56-47.

able were walking out the gymnasium said. "We were two points) again."

mic Green inbounded to Thurston, who fired a shot to Gurganious, standing four feet inside the key.

trally remember how the ball was left when I got it. I think it was 1.6 seconds," he said. "It (the shot) was good leaving my hand."

off the backboard and the net."

St. Mary's players, of course, mobbed him at center court and they picked me up. I was on the bottom" of

can't believe it," Gurganious said. "I guess I was just

the BSAL, Page 2

PREP SOCCER

On Jan. 30, the Yellow Jackets enjoyed a 2-0 win over Alameda High on the narrow, torn-up grass pitch that is Alameda's Thompson Field. On Monday, the teams returned to action at Berkeley High.

This time, the Yellow Jackets looked more in their element on AstroTurf, scoring five first-half goals en route to a 7-0 win over the Hornets.

The Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League match was a make-up of one originally scheduled Dec. 19.

To be sure, Berkeley (10-1-1 ACCAL, 17-3-2 overall after beating Pinole Valley 7-0 Tuesday) is not strictly an AstroTurf team.

It has won matches on other surfaces, including FieldTurf.

Perhaps its best win of the season came on a natural field, a 3-1 victory over Foothill-Pleasanton for the Winter Soccer Classic tournament title during the Christmas break.

Still, the Yellow Jackets are very much at home — both literally and figuratively — on Monsanto's magic carpet.

"This is an advantage," Yellow Jackets coach Janu Juarez said, motioning to the AstroTurf.

"We can play on NikeTurf or we can play on grass, but in the six years I've been here, we've only lost three or four games (at home)."

Alameda (5-2-1 ACCAL) had one advantage it didn't have in the Jan. 30 match: midfielder Aneesh Rana had returned from a one-match suspension (he received a red card Jan. 28 against El Cerrito).

But Monday was not going to be Alameda's night.

Though the ball runs faster on AstroTurf than it does on grass, Berkeley's vaunted attack had more space to operate, as its field is much wider than Thompson Field.

And the Yellow Jackets wasted no time in showing themselves the superior side.

Kamani Hill, Berkeley's co-captain and junior forward, enjoyed another awesome night in what has been an awesome season.

Hill finished with three goals and two assists.

But the Yellow Jackets are far from just a one-player show. Edgar Hernandez had two assists and Ben Toczynski scored two goals.

Hill scored the first goal three minutes into the match off a perfect cross from Hernandez.

Hill scored unassisted at 27 minutes for a 2-0 lead, an advantage that quickly grew.

Toczynski added a third goal on a penalty kick at 33 minutes, and Hill — completing his hat trick — made it 4-0 off another fine cross from Hernandez 90 seconds later.

At 38 minutes, Toczynski scored his second goal — this one set up by a long run by Hill — to send the Yellow Jackets into halftime with a 5-0 lead.

Berkeley wanted very much to maintain its shutout in the second half, and kept Alameda at bay for the most part.

But there were some close calls.

In the 49th minute, Alameda's Jordan Flores found himself one-on-one with Berkeley goalkeeper Jesse Falk-Finley.

Flores' shot went wide, as did an attempt off a corner kick by

Jamie Tench at 57 minutes.

Berkeley, for its part, showed other facets of its game.

At 62 minutes, senior co-captain and sweeper Chris Darby headed home Giovanni Garcia's corner kick for a 6-0 lead.

Less than six minutes later, Hill worked a nice combination with Walker Toma, the latter scoring the final goal of the evening.

"After the (Winter Soccer Classic), we came out physically and emotionally drained; finals week took a lot out of us, too," Juarez said.

"But this puts the league on notice that we're back."

No, Berkeley is not strictly an AstroTurf team.

But the Yellow Jackets sure play one mean game on that surface, as Alameda quickly learned.

WHO NEEDS FANS?

Hercules wins big in empty gym



BERKELEY and Hercules players warm up for ACCAL game, which was closed to the public because of a brawl at their previous meeting.

The rematch is entertaining but strangely quiet

By Phil Jensen
TIMES STAFF WRITER

BERKELEY — At 6:45 p.m. Tuesday, the area in front of the Berkeley High School gymnasium doors was deserted.

Berkeley and Hercules, two of the top boys basketball teams in the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League, were scheduled to start their game 15 minutes later. Usually, the gym entrance would be bustling with fans at this time, anticipating a great matchup.

But not this Tuesday.

The only people who witnessed Hercules' 52-47 win over Berkeley were team players and personnel (including junior varsity and freshman players who had competed earlier), varsity

PREP BASKETBALL

coaching staffs, school administrators and athletic directors, game officials, game support personnel and the media.

This scenario was because in the first game between the two teams on Jan. 7, a brawl among spectators spilled onto the court at Hercules late in the third quarter, forcing suspension of the game. It was decided at an ACCAL board of managers/athletic directors joint meeting on Jan. 8 that there would be no spectators allowed in the gymnasium for the second game between the two teams because of safety concerns, according to ACCAL com-

missioner Bill Jones.

The continuation of the first game will be played Feb. 26 at 6 p.m. at Hercules with no spectators, Berkeley athletic director Robert Traum said.

"It wasn't very fun," said Berkeley coach Mike Gragnani about playing in front of no spectators. "I feel bad for the players and parents of both teams. High school basketball is about fans and parents in the stands."

After the teams gathered for a pregame prayer at center court, the squeak of basketball shoes on the court was clear as the game began. Chants of "defense" from the Berkeley bench boomed off the gym's walls.

"My bench ... we kept it up as

long as we could," said Berkeley senior Robert Hunter-Ford about the vocal support.

Conversations between the few individuals in the stands were easy to hear. At one point late in the third quarter, the gym was so quiet during a free-throw attempt that the hum from the halogen lights above was audible.

"It was kind of dry," said Hercules' Harry Brown about the atmosphere. "The fans are what helps bring up the intensity."

Instead, it was up to the teams to bring up the intensity themselves, for the most part. The game was so riveting that it didn't appear to be a problem.

See BERKELEY, Page 2

BRIEFS

Attention: High school coaches and AEs

The Hills Newspapers need your high school spring sports schedules. Please fax or mail them to:

Hills Newspapers, 1516 Oak Street, Alameda 94501; fax 510-748-1680.

Mid-County Officials Network seeks umpires

The Mid-County Officials Network is seeking fastpitch softball and baseball umpires for its 2003 season for little league softball/baseball and high school softball/baseball. Game fees range from \$37-\$54 per game. Games are played in Contra Costa, Alameda and Solano Counties. The season begins in March. For training packets and information call 510-301-2923.

Basketball camp

The Ten Star All Star Summer Basketball Camp is now evaluating applications. The camp is by invitation only, and boys and girls 10-19 are eligible to apply. College scholarships are possible for players selected to the All-American team. For a free brochure, call 704-373-0873.

Cal lacrosse team clinics

The Cal lacrosse team will be holding two clinics run by the coaching staff and members from the women's team at Maxwell Field on the Cal Campus. A developmental clinic will be held Feb. 15-16 from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and Feb. 17 from 9-11:30 a.m. The advanced/team clinic will be held Feb. 15-16 from 2:30-7 p.m. and Feb. 17 from 12:30-3 p.m. The cost for each clinic is \$140. For information call 510-643-4511. Online registration

is available at www.oski.org.

East Bay Xplosion spring tryouts

EBX tryouts for the spring 10U-13U teams will be held on Sunday, March 2, and Sunday, March 9. Tryouts for the spring high school teams (14U-17U) will be held Sunday, March 23, and Sunday, March 30. Location and times TBA. For more information, contact Mark Anger at coachmar@prodigy.net, or by phone at 209-578-0151, or visit the Web site at www.leaguelineup.com/ebx.

Youth football

The Warriors Youth Football and Cheerleaders Association is a nonprofit public organization with a program designed to reach children in the greater Oakland area, including

Alameda, Berkeley, Piedmont, Emeryville, Hayward, Oakland, Richmond, San Leandro, and other cities in the East Bay.

Its mission to instill within each youth the principles of community service, sportsmanship, academic responsibility, honesty, self esteem, loyalty, courage, cooperation and reverence to positively further their growth and emergence into society. For more information log on to www.eastbaywarriors.org.

Cheer coaches and assistant coaches for teams are needed. We are looking for dependable people to work with the following age groups: Mitey Mites — 7-9 years
Peewee — 8-11
Peewee — 9-12
Jr. Midgets — 10-13
Midgets — 11-15
Background checks are required

for all coaches, along with CPR/first aid certification training. Those interested in working with youth should call 510-869-4760 or e-mail ebwarriors@yahoo.com.

Rowing

The Oakland Strokes offer one of the premier junior rowing programs in the nation, giving high school boys and girls opportunities to learn rowing and to compete at club, regional, national and international levels. Contact the club via e-mail at membership@oaklandstrokes.org.

Adult soccer

The coed adult soccer league of Albany is looking for teams and individual players of all levels, beginners through advanced. Call the Albany Recreation Department at 510-524-9283.

together

Notes examines the "Odd Couple" arrangement of KCBS and KPX.

Cajun/Zydeco fun

Ashkenaz hosts the California Friends of Louisiana French Music potluck and dance. Page C3

It's showtime

Capsule reviews and starting times are your guide to going to the movies. Page C4

Dull 'Knights'

Shanghai Knights has little to offer beyond the box office appeal of Jackie Chan. Page C5

PREP BOYS BASKETBALL POLL

Rank	School	Record	Comment
1	Oakland Tech	14-4	Buildogs show no rust from week off, top Castlemont 81-47
2	Amador Valley	18-2	Feb. 14 meeting against Cal should be last hurdle in sprint for EBAL crown
3	Bishop O'Dowd	17-1	Dragons make HAAL statement by pounding Mt. Eden 80-36
4	De La Salle	14-5	Nearly has 28-game BVAL win-streak snapped by Antioch
5	Newark Memorial	17-4	Will MVAL competition have them ready for NCS?
6	Oakland	16-3	Wildcats still loom dangerously in the OAL background
7	Berkeley	16-3	The 11-game win streak ends against Hercules in eerie, no-fan atmosphere
8	Dublin	14-5	Alone in first place, Gaels are in control of DFAL destiny
9	California	13-7	Remains a threat to Amador Valley's EBAL title hopes
10	El Cerrito	17-3	Gauchos slip against Berkeley but rebound by routing Richmond

Others receiving votes: Acalanes (14-5), San Leandro (13-5), St. Joseph (14-7). The Times basketball poll incorporates all East Bay high schools and is compiled by the staffs of Contra Costa Newspapers. Records are through Tuesday.

PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL POLL

Rank	School	Record	Comment
1	Piedmont	18-2	Highlanders remain team to beat in BSAL
2	Amador Valley	15-4	Dons to host Berkeley in tough nonleague game Saturday
3	Berkeley	14-5	Yellow Jackets top Valley Christian-S.J. on last-second shot by Danesha Wright
4	Carondelet	17-2	Cougars push winning streak to 11 games
5	Moreau Catholic	15-2	Mariners top Hayward 58-53
6	Oakland Tech	13-7	Buildogs beat Castlemont in OAL action 58-45
7	Bishop O'Dowd	16-2	Dragons bounce back with 30-point win over Mt. Eden
8	Kennedy	19-3	Eagles drop game to St. Mary's in BSAL showdown
9	Miramonte	13-6	Matadors continue to roll in DFAL with wins over Concord and Acalanes
10	Alameda	16-3	Hornets' Kumari Willis nets 19 points in win over Pinole Valley

Others receiving votes: St. Mary's (13-7). Records through Tuesday. The Times prep basketball poll incorporates all East Bay high schools and is voted on by the staff of Contra Costa Newspapers.

ACCAL

FROM PAGE 1

figured to have more points last year."

The point guard position became available after the departure of Kristen Ikeda to graduation, and Smith, who O'Shea said possessed excellent leadership qualities, felt she would perfect for the job.

"When she first came up I didn't expect her to be this good. It was a pleasant surprise last year," O'Shea said. "This year, she's one of the best guards around."

And she made a huge point of backing that up with a 27-point effort in a 56-48 loss to Berkeley Jan. 24.

Although her uncanny scoring ability seems to be a mystery to her, Smith does credit the support of her teammates for taking some of the heat off her, particularly forward Cheri Miller, who also ranks among the area's top scorers with 180 points.

Through Wednesday, the

Spartans are 4-3 in the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League and suffered a narrow 61-59 loss to Alameda, which is undefeated in league (7-0).

The loss puts the Spartans in third place in the standings, two games behind second-place El Cerrito. But Smith continued to shine with 26 points.

"It's nerve-wracking. Everybody's counting on me and I have to come through," she said.

BOYS BASKETBALL: In front of an empty house, the rematch between the Hercules and Berkeley boys went off without a hitch Tuesday night as the Titans earned a 52-47 road victory.

Aside from the players themselves, only team personnel, coaching staffs, school administrators and media were allowed to attend the game.

The decision stems from a Jan. 7 brawl that occurred at Hercules when these two teams met for the first time this season.

The incident began in the

stands as the third quarter was coming to a close and spilled onto the court, involving 200 people.

None of the players were involved nor injured, the court was cleared and the game suspended. An ACCAL board of managers/athletic directors decided on Jan. 8 not to allow spectators in the gymnasium for the rematch because of safety concerns.

The two teams will continue their first meeting on Feb. 26 at 6 p.m. at Hercules.

SOCCER: The Berkeley girls have wrapped up the ACCAL title for the third consecutive season thanks to a 3-0 shutout win at home over Pinole Valley on Tuesday.

The win gave Berkeley 36 points by midweek, 11 points better than Pinole Valley and El Cerrito with two matches left to play.

Annie Borton, Maura Fitzgerald and Dea Wallach each scored for the Yellow Jackets to seal the win.

game, scored just 14 in this one. Kennedy is 6-2 and a half-game behind St. Joseph. The teams do not meet again in the regular season.

Don't forget Albany

In yet another nail-biter on Friday night, Albany guard Danny Ho went down the lane and banked in a shot with seven seconds left to give the Cougars a 55-53 victory at Piedmont.

Dhahabu out

Imani Dhahabu, Salesian's 6-foot-1 MVP center, fractured a toe a couple of weeks ago in a game against Clear Lake, and it really started giving her problems in Friday's 47-42 loss to Holy Names in Richmond. She scored 14 points, but Salesian coach Steve Cuevas did not play her against Piedmont on Monday night.

"We held her out," Cuevas said after the Highlanders won 73-39. "We were looking at the big picture."

Dhahabu, who warmed up before the game, was unhappy she was unable to play.

"I think I could have played," she said, "but my mother did not want me to."

BSAL

FROM PAGE 1

stunned. I've never done anything like that before — not from half-court, not at the buzzer."

The St. Mary's sophomore guard also hit a shot that tied the game at 51-51 in regulation.

St. Mary's (4-2) lost to Kennedy 52-46 on Monday, knocking the Panthers a game-and-a-half behind St. Joseph (6-1) in the BSAL. But St. Mary's and St. Joseph meet again (the Pilots were 52-50 winners over the Panthers on Jan. 10) on Tuesday in Berkeley.

"I can't wait," Gurganious said of the upcoming game. "This time it's at our place."

St. Joe nips Eagles

The Panthers weren't the only team that dodged a bullet Friday night. In Alameda, Cameron Quick scored with eight seconds left on a baseline jumper as the Pilots edged the Eagles 55-54. Quick finished with 20 points and helped block Devin Peal's drive down the lane in the waning moments to preserve the victory.

Peal, who came into the game averaging nearly 27 points a

Berkeley

FROM PAGE 1

Fans of both teams missed a whale of a game.

The game was tied 39-39 after the third quarter with both teams having experienced up-and-down play previous to that point. But Hercules (11-8, 6-1 ACCAL), which was trailing by 10 at halftime, continued to make clutch shots while Berkeley was suffering through a 5-for-27 shooting performance in the second half.

A 3-pointer by Nate Simmons brought Berkeley (16-3, 6-1) to within 48-47 with 52 seconds remaining. But the Yellow Jackets were unable to progress closer in the next 42 seconds. Hercules freshman Devanae Leach grabbed a rebound and was fouled with 9.7 seconds remaining, then calmly sank two free throws.

Hercules' Warner West converted two free throws for the final advantage. Brown scored 15 points to lead all scorers.

ON DECK

Prep boys basketball

El Cerrito at Hercules, 4 p.m. today — The Gauchos are now on top of the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League with a 7-1 record, but Hercules (6-1 ACCAL) is right on El Cerrito's heels.

Albany at Kennedy, 7 p.m. tonight — The Cougars defeated the Eagles 57-55 on Jan. 7 in the Bay Shore Athletic League opener for both teams. Since then, Kennedy has a 6-1 BSAL record and is one-half game out of first, while Albany is 2-4 during that span.

Prep girls basketball

Berkeley at Amador Valley, 6 p.m. Saturday — A showdown between two of the top teams in the region. The Dons (15-4 at press time) are ranked second in the Times prep girls basketball poll. The Yellow Jackets (14-5) are ranked third.

Alameda at Berkeley, 7 p.m. Tuesday — This game could be a

preview of the ACCAL playoff game on March 1.

El Cerrito at Alameda, 7 p.m. Thursday — The Gauchos (8-1 ACCAL) will try to knock off the Hornets, who are undefeated in ACCAL play (7-0).

Boys soccer

Albany at Kennedy, 3:30 p.m. today — The Cougars will attempt to upset the Eagles, who are in first place in the BSAL.

Berkeley at El Cerrito, 5 p.m. Tuesday — Both teams could use a win to advance their causes at the North Coast Section playoff seeding meeting.

Girls soccer

BSAL playoffs, first round, Tuesday, TBA — St. Mary's and Albany could both nab spots in the playoffs.

Stars of the week

Larry Gurganious, St. Mary's boys basketball — The sophomore

sank a half-court shot for 13 points, including a 6-for-6 performance in the free throw line in the 4th quarter, as the Yellow Jackets routed El Cerrito 62-58.

Maura Fitzgerald, Berkeley girls soccer — Fitzgerald scored two goals in a 4-0 win over Albany, added a goal in a 4-0 victory over El Cerrito.

Parras Vega, St. Mary's girls soccer — Vega produced two goals in the Panthers' 4-1 victory over the Hornets. Joseph and their 9-0 win over Kennedy. She also had assists in both games.

Shaun Burl, Berkeley boys basketball — Burl scored 13 points, including a 6-for-6 performance in the free throw line in the 4th quarter, as the Yellow Jackets routed El Cerrito 62-58.

Jerryck Owens-Murray, Pinole Valley boys basketball — Owens scored 20 points and made three blocks in El Cerrito's 78-67 victory over Pinole Valley, then posted 10 rebounds and a loss to El Cerrito.

his three goals by Jason Hadley, and goalkeeper Nick Osborn stopped seven St. Joseph shots. The win, coupled with Salesian's loss, vaults the Panthers into third place in the league.

Berkeley 7, Alameda 0: Kamani Hill scored three goals and assisted on two more as the host Yellow Jackets cruised to an ACCAL victory on Monday.

Berkeley (16-3-2, 9-1-1 ACCAL) took the lead three minutes into the game when Hill was assisted by Edgar Hernandez.

The Yellow Jackets took over first place in the ACCAL with 28 points, one ahead of Richmond (9-1, 27 points). Alameda (11-4-1, 6-3-1) is in third place with 19 points.

GIRLS SOCCER

Berkeley 3, Pinole Valley 0: The Yellow Jackets locked up the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League title for the third consecutive season by shutting out Spartans at home on Tuesday.

The win gave Berkeley (13-6-2, 12-0 ACCAL) 36 points, 11 points better than second-place Pinole Valley (8-3-1 ACCAL) and El Cerrito (11-4-2, 8-3-1) with two league matches left to play.

Annie Borton, Maura Fitzgerald and Dea Wallach each scored for the Yellow Jackets and goalkeepers Sara Corrigan-Gibbs and Alice Alpert did not have to make a save.

Berkeley 7, Alameda 2: The Yellow Jackets (12-6-2, 11-0-0 ACCAL) broke open a tight game with six second-half goals against

the host Hornets (5-4-2) on Jan. 30. Dea Wallach, Fitzgerald and Anne Borton had two goals for Berkeley.



GOING FOR THE TAX DEDUCTION

We hear it again and again: People want to buy a house because they need to increase their income with tax deductions. They take out the best possible mortgage to reap the largest possible interest payment deduction.

"I have it written in black stone in my office," financial advisor Ramona Stone. "Never let it be the wag the dog."

He's right. After all, large-loan logic, it also makes sense to take out a loan at the highest possible interest rate, because it will cost more of an interest deduction. Let us not forget, though, you have to pay out of pocket in order to deduct more.

There is, however, an important consideration: Stone's written-in-stone overlooks. Robert Stone, a nationally-syndicated estate columnist, makes the point repeatedly. It allows you to deduct interest on your purchase money plus \$100,000 in additional loans secured by the property you may need to refinance (perhaps because of appreciation and automatic mortgages) or otherwise row against your home's future, you may be able to do what you can do if you out the smallest possible mortgage in the first place. There are no simple answers...simply everyone's plans and needs differ. Make sure your stony rules, are always focus. Need help? Just Marc at 280-2103 and his web site at www.marcguay.com.

Marc Guay is a Realtor with Red Oak Realty in Berkeley.

SPORTSMEN'S EXPO

PLEASANTON

ALAMEDA COUNTY EXPO CENTER

FEBRUARY 13-16

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NOW PLAYING

Below are capsule reviews of movies playing at area theaters. The reviewers are Mary F. Pols, Times; Robert W. Butler and Chris Hewitt, Knight Ridder Newspapers; Glenn Lovell, San Jose Mercury News; Anthony Breznican, David Germain, Christy Lemire, Tim Molloy, Sheila Norman-Culp, Jocelyn Novack, Ben Nuckols, Malcolm Ritter and Matt Wolf, Associated Press; Bruce Westbrook, Houston Chronicle; Jan Stuart, Newsday; Stephen Holden, Dave Kehr, Elvis Mitchell, A.O. Scott and Lawrence Van Gelder, New York Times; Evan Henerson, Valerie Kulkenski, Fred Shuster, Bob Strauss and Glenn Whipp, Los Angeles Daily News; Manicha Dargis, Kevin Thomas and Kenneth Turan, Los Angeles Times; Nancy Churnin, Gary Dowell, Charles Ealy, Tom Mastrand, Chris Vognar and Philip Wurtz, Dallas Morning News; Christopher Kelly and Robert Philpot, Fort Worth Star-Telegram; and Roger Moore, Orlando Sentinel; Jay Baltake, Sacramento Bee; Ann Hornaday and Stephen Hunter, Washington Post.

"ABOUT SCHMIDT?": If you love Jack Nicholson, seeing Alexander Payne's ("Election") dark and rather mournful comedy should be high on your list. It features the actor in a state of mind in which we rarely see him: vulnerable, soul-searching and compromising in a way that ordinary people must often be. He is Nebraska Warren Schmidt, recently retired and widowed, and realizing how futile his life has been. Only one means to salvation: Stop his daughter (Hope Davis) from marrying a doofus waterbed salesman (Dermot Mulroney). — M. Pols. (R; language and brief nudity.) 2 hours, 4 minutes. **A**

"ADAPTATION?": This latest collaboration from director Spike Jonze and screenwriter Charlie Kaufman, the "Being John Malkovich" team, is a heady, happy jumble of thought and storytelling, an insane comic undertaking that ultimately coheres into a sane and breathtakingly creative film. Ostensibly, it's about adapting Susan Orlean's book, "The Orchid Thief," to film, with Nicolas Cage doing double duty as the tortured screenwriter and his more successful twin brother. Add to this Meryl Streep as the author, doing shockingly un-Streepian things, and an Oscar-worthy performance by Chris Cooper ("Lone Star"). — M. Pols. (R; language, sexuality, some drug use and violent images.) 1 hour, 52 minutes. **A**

"A GUY THING?": Another youthful sex farce with only glimmers of cleverness. There are three decent-enough performances by Jason Lee

as groom-to-be Paul, Selma Blair as his society-girl fiancée Karen, and Julia Stiles as Becky, the girl who comes between them. Paul meets Becky at his bachelor party and wakes up the next morning with missing memories and Karen sleeping naked beside him. He gives her the bum's rush just before Karen drops by, and figures that that. But disturbingly, Paul keeps bumping into Becky. They are both surprised to find out that Becky is cousin to the bride. It all climaxes at the wedding, as any movie that hopes to make money nowadays would. — B. Strauss. (PG-13: adult situations, language, violence, drug use.) 1 hour, 41 minutes. **C**

"ANTHONY FISHER?": "Good Will Hunting" joins the Navy in this real-life story of a troubled but admirable young man who finds his better self with the help of the troubled but well-meaning psychiatrist he is ordered to see. It's formulaic and idealized, but there is real heart beneath this story's thick shelling of lost man-child sensitivity. The fact that the real Anthony Fisher wrote the screenplay and that first-time feature director Denzel Washington can marshal his troops just as well as he deploys his own prodigious acting talents contribute mightily to this pleasing result. — B. Strauss. (PG-13: language, violence, children in jeopardy.) 1 hour, 57 minutes. **B**

"BOWLING FOR COLUMBINE?": Just hours before they killed a dozen classmates and a teacher at Columbine High School, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold went bowling. Was there a connection? Is it logical to blame the sport or, for that matter, any single thing for America's violent nature? "Bowling for Columbine" doesn't have the answers, and really doesn't expect to find them. For documentary writer-director Michael Moore, the asking is what's important. — K. Turan. (R: some violent images and language.) 1 hour, 59 minutes. **B**

"CATCH ME IF YOU CAN?": Director Steven Spielberg has pulled off a neat feat, with two cool movies in one year. He's likely to get more praise for the darkly futuristic "Minority Report," but the pleasure is all ours in this fleet-footed treat, based on a true story. Leonardo DiCaprio plays Frank Abagnale Jr., who began his career as a con artist as a teen in the '60s. With Tom Hanks as the workaholic FBI man who pursues him through bogus identities as a doctor and Pan Am pilot. — M. Pols. (PG-13: sexual

content and brief language.) 2 hours, 20 minutes. **A-**

"CHICAGO?": Why was it again that Hollywood stopped making movie musicals? Who decided we shouldn't leave a theater humming that catchy tune, fighting the urge to tap dance the way across the lobby? "Chicago" is our kind of uplifting, exhilarating movie that makes you ask these questions. Vastly talented Renee Zellweger even manages to upstage diva Catherine Zeta-Jones in this tawdry tale, originally based on true-crime cases and later made into a Broadway musical. — M. Pols. (PG-13: sexual content and dialogue, violence and thematic elements.) 1 hour, 53 minutes. **A**

"CITY OF GOD?": Fernando Meirelles' scorching anecdotal history of violence in the slums of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, traces the decline of a neighborhood, Cidade de Deus (City of God), from a sun-baked shantytown where children while away the days in soccer games and petty thievery into a shadowy slum teeming with armed adolescent warriors. The portrait of a boy soldier enlisting in a volunteer criminal army with an astronomical mortality rate is one of the movie's many profoundly unsettling images. Adapted from a best-selling novel by Paulo Lins, who grew up in Cidade de Deus, its narrator, Rocket (Alexandre Rodrigues), is a young photographer from the same neighborhood, whose loose-jointed yarns follow the fates of a number of his childhood acquaintances. — S. Holden. (R: scenes of violence and graphic sex talk.) 2 hours, 10 minutes. **A-**

"CONFESSIONS OF A DANGEROUS MIND?": Affection for Chuck Barris is not a prerequisite, thankfully. Even those who despised the creator and host of the monumentally grating 1970s hit "The Gong Show" may get caught up in the merry pace of George Clooney's directorial debut, an adaptation of Barris' autobiography, which "revealed" he had a second, secret career as a contract killer for the CIA. Sam Rockwell is excellent as Barris. Drew Barrymore the bee's knees as his girlfriend, and Clooney and Julia Roberts are fine in peripheral roles. The movie whizzes by in a whirl of smart comedy and snappy visual styles Clooney borrows from his past directors, but it bogs down in its refusal to make any judgments about Barris. Hanging out in the middle of the road, no matter how good the scenery, eventually gets dull. — M. Pols. (R: for language, sexual content and violence.) 1 hour, 53 minutes. **B**

"DARKNESS FALLS?": Here's a film

that gives B-movies a bad name. Long ago, in the town of Darkness Falls, an old woman gave gold coins to children in exchange for their baby teeth, earning her the nickname Tooth Fairy. When a couple of children go missing, the old woman is lynched by the townspeople, and her ghost has haunted the place ever since. Flash-forward to the present, as we meet Kyle Walsh (Chasey Klay), a young man who once saw the ghost and lived to tell about it. Kyle returns to Darkness Falls when his childhood sweetheart (Emma Caulfield), seeks his help — her little brother is plagued by the same night terrors that Kyle once had, and may be a target of the Tooth Fairy. — G. Dowell. (PG-13: language, violence.) 1 hour, 15 minutes. **D**

"FAR FROM HEAVEN?": Perhaps only one filmmaker a year finds a new way to make our movies hang open. This year, it is writer/director Todd Haynes, who bravely attacks our ennui with the last weapon we might have expected, a Douglas Sirk-style overwrought melodrama right out of the repressed 1950s, complete with a Technicolor palette and a cheesy musical score. Julianne Moore stars as a gracious Connecticut housewife who discovers that her loving husband (Dennis Quaid) is actually gay. A blast of air, albeit deliberately stagnant, out of the skirts of the moviegoing public. — M. Pols. (PG-13: mature thematic elements, sexual content, brief violence and language.) 1 hour, 47 minutes. **A**

"GANGS OF NEW YORK?": For 30 years, Martin Scorsese has longed to take us back to the days when New York City was the dangerous home of warring immigrants. The director's passionate and laudable intent is to show young America at its most elemental, boiling over with bigotry and resentments, free of the idealistic gloss fiction often gives our history. It's unfortunate, then, that "Gangs" — based on a semi-journalistic cult book — never pulses with real life. Plenty of veins get sliced open, but there's no sense that the blood pouring forth actually comes from a human being. Daniel-Day Lewis steals the show as Bill the Butcher, head of one gang, far outshining Leonardo DiCaprio as leader of the other. — M. Pols. (R: intense violence, sexuality, nudity and language.) 2 hours, 45 minutes. **B-**

"THE HOURS?": Director Stephen Daldry's film is based on the Pulitzer Prize-winning tribute to Woolf, which imagines her 1941 suicide and how her fiction resonates in the lives of

two women in the future. Julianne Moore and Meryl Streep are great, but Nicole Kidman is the show-stopper as Woolf. She's been outfitted with a fake nose; even her blue eyes are darker than usual, as if burdened by the writer's mania. The actress is convincing both as a genius at the height of her craft, and as a woman desperate to escape the pain of her own insanity. — M. Pols. (PG-13: mature thematic elements, some disturbing images, brief language.) 1 hour, 53 minutes. **A**

"JUST MARRIED?": Ashton Kutcher plays Tom Leezak, a goofy, middle-class young man trying to win the heart of a rich girl named Sarah (Brittany Murphy) and the respect of her snooty family. The movie begins with the breakup of Tom and Sarah's marriage — and then flashes back to tell the story of how they met and fell in love. It's a jerry-built structure that denies us any dramatic tension and steals from other, better movies. Once Tom and Sarah set off on their honeymoon, the film picks up some steam, but, even at its best, it's only mildly amusing. — C. Kelly. (PG-13: sexual content, crude humor, drug references.) 1 hour, 35 minutes. **C-**

"KANGAROO JACK?": Roll over, Tupac, here comes a rapping kangaroo. Charlie (Jerry O'Connell) and Louis (Anthony Anderson), two young guys from Brooklyn, end up in the Australian Outback when they accidentally infuriate Charlie's scary mob-boss stepfather, Sal (Christopher Walken). To try to get back into Sal's good graces, they attempt to deliver \$50,000 to an Aussie mobster. But on their way to make the drop, their Jeep hits a kangaroo who revives and hops off with Sal's money. As Charlie and Louis pursue the marsupial, Charlie begins to hallucinate Kangaroo Jack rappin'. The kangaroo featured on the film's poster gives it a family-friendly appearance, but a combination of scatological humor, gunplay and sexual references should put it off limits to many kids. — J. Boyar. (PG: language, crude humor, sensuality, violence.) 1 hour, 28 minutes. **F**

"THE LION KING?": IMAX: The Disney animated classic comes to the very big screen, but since everybody's seen it, who will go? Still, the colors are brighter than ever, and the soundtrack is a knockout, especially the orchestral arrangements of Elton John compositions. — R. Butler. (G) 1 hour, 30 minutes. **B**

"THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE TWO TOWERS?": The second installment of director Peter Jackson's big-screen adaptation of J.R.R. Tolkien's great trilogy is as intoxicating as last year's "Fellowship." Jackson expertly weaves together three distinct journeys, taking as his centerpiece a scene to which Tolkien devoted only a dozen or so pages — the battle to defend Helm's Deep. It's a fantastic choice, one of the most thrilling battle scenes ever filmed. The special effects, most notably the computer-generated creature Gollum (voice and movements by Andy Serkis) are nifty, with the unfortunate exception of the

Ents, who look a bit too like Gumbys. — M. Pols. (PG: battle sequences and some violence.) 2 hours, 59 minutes. **A-**

"MAID IN MANHATTAN?": Those romantic comedies a given that one lover will either at some point and be shocked disbelieve. It's hard to worry much, though, when heroine Marisa's (Jennifer Aniston) secret is that she's a hardworking, clever and ambitious industrialist, a woman who has made her fortune in the rich dilettante. The delicate touch of her affection is blue-eyed Chris (Ralph Fiennes), whose appealing feature is his eyes. Marisa's (Jennifer Aniston) secret is that she's a hardworking, clever and ambitious industrialist, a woman who has made her fortune in the rich dilettante. The delicate touch of her affection is blue-eyed Chris (Ralph Fiennes), whose appealing feature is his eyes. Marisa's (Jennifer Aniston) secret is that she's a hardworking, clever and ambitious industrialist, a woman who has made her fortune in the rich dilettante. The delicate touch of her affection is blue-eyed Chris (Ralph Fiennes), whose appealing feature is his eyes. 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Creary 'Shanghai Knights' a likely hit

Jackie Chan
downplays actor
Wilson's talent,
his self too thin
By Mary F. Pols
STAFF WRITER

Chan has a gift, of pre-
grace, strength and hu-
le's our modern-day Fred
a fleet-footed martial-arts
an exquisitely choreo-
fighting machine. You
understand why moviegoers
for him.

Astaire, Chan's skills are
not so highly specific that
require their own very lim-
work for display. In
case, action comedy
be the ideal showcase.
The tiresome "Shanghai
is a sad reminder that
is doomed to be ped-
and over again in this
with little deviation.

Chan supplies the action, in-
some mighty sword work
lovely homage to Gene
"Singing in the Rain," but
was supposed to bring
— one assumes writ-
Gough and Miles Mil-
who also wrote 2000's
"The Noon" — fell down
in a big way. "Shanghai
is weak and witless.

Chan's char-
Owen Wil-
played his buddy Roy
in the Western-themed
Chan's char-
Wang, has stayed be-
Nevada to be sheriff of
City, while O'Bannon has
to New York, where he's
high life of a waiter and
gigolo. They're reunited
Wang's father, keeper of
apparently extremely im-
perial seal, is mur-
Rathbone (Aidan Gillen,
a bizarre twist of genet-
sembles both Alan Cum-
and Alec Baldwin), a rogue
Queen Victoria's crown.
might ask, how does



WHEN THEIR father is brutally murdered, Chon Wang (Jackie Chan, center) and his sister, Chon Lin (Fann Wong), head for London for revenge with buddy Roy O'Bannon (Owen Wilson) in Shanghai Knights.

REVIEW

- **WHAT:** "Shanghai Knights"
- **STARRING:** Jackie Chan, Owen Wilson, Aaron Johnson, Fann Wong
- **RATING:** PG-13 (violence and sexual content)
- **RUNNING TIME:** 1 hour, 47 minutes
- **WHERE:** Opens today at area theaters
- **GRADE:** D+

stealing the imperial seal of China increase your chances of gaining the throne in England? The muddled, oafish "Shanghai Knights" never provides the answer to that question, but presumably it's a means of getting both our heroes over to Victorian England, where Jack the Ripper is killing prostitutes in Whitechapel, the unknown Arthur Conan Doyle is dreaming

of writing detective stories, and a young street urchin named Charlie Chaplin is looking for a way out of the slums.

The boys are joined in their quest for revenge by Wang's baby sister, Chon Lin (Fann Wong), who is very nearly as talented in the martial-arts department as her brother. Noted ladies man Roy is struck by Lin's beauty — surprising, given that it's nearly obscured by two swaths of flat-ironed hair that hang an inch from either side of her nose. Wang isn't pleased, which causes about a 30-second rift between the duo.

Since Wilson was a co-writer on director Wes Anderson's sharp and witty screenplays for "The Royal Tenenbaums" and "Rushmore," you'd think he'd be fairly discriminating about his choice of scripts. But he mugs his way through "Shanghai Knights" without benefit of a single decent spoken joke. He has to content

himself with lines like, "I heard England is ass soup," or, "This country blows," and Roy often as not seems like a mean-spirited jerk.

The best laugh he gets, the only one that bears a spark of the trademark Owen Wilson comic timing, comes not from a line, but a look. He and Chon are engaged in a pillow fight with a dozen or so half-dressed hookers when Roy notices a third guy who has suddenly appeared in the action, a doughy dude in a union suit. His quizzical double take is funny. But then, presumably after a favorable response from director David Dobkin ("Clay Pigeons"), Wilson repeats it, and you realize how thin this movie is stretched. It's dull, it's dreary, and it's going to make a lot of money.

Mary Pols can be reached at 925-945-4741 or mpols@cc-times.com.

EVENTS

PERFORMANCES

Feb. 11 and Feb. 12, \$15
Dream, Feb. 13 through
\$22 to \$26
Theaterseas are \$5 per child and
adult with one child. Shows
through Saturday, 8 p.m.
Sun. Sunday, 2 p.m. and 8
p.m. otherwise noted. \$10 Em-
West, Oakland, 510-236-
www.yoshis.com or www.tick-

MUSICAL MUSIC

PERFORMANCES — Richard
Foster, Feb. 9, 3 p.m. A pro-
grams by Beethoven, Byrd,
Debussy and Mozart.
Zellerbach Hall, Bancroft
Theatre, University of California,
Berkeley, 510-642-9988
www.berkeley.edu
MUSIC SUNDAYS — Feb.
10, 3 p.m. Program of works by
Bach, Beethoven, Brindley,
Chopin, Debussy, and Liszt.
\$14 students; \$7 children

REVIEWS

PERFORMANCES

Executive producer Tom
and this movie, calling it
"a thriller." But don't
be lulled. In writer/director
Chan's film, Jason Patric
is a disgraced undercover
officer who is offered a
pardon with the force if he
the murder of another
cop. He's assigned to
case with Henry (Ray Li-
grand cop's former partner,
who is to be a bit of a rogue,
and a well-paced and -acted
thriller at the end seems obvi-
ously nothing here you
on a good episode of
"24." — M. Pols. (R: strong
emotion, drug content and
language.) 1 hour, 42
minutes.

SECURITY

latest has a couple of
gaps and a genialy sub-
tle toward race relations.
Other particular, it's a
marked-down affair.
The problem is that the character
playing is not unpleasant.
The first time we see
him giving testimony that
he is a cop (Steve Zahn)
and his fiancée. That
he is a tough character to
when he and Zahn (af-
ter a bit of a sub-
"Lethal
— C. He-
violence, language,
zahn) 1 hour, 30 minutes.

NICKLEBY

Writer/di-
McGrath's heavily
vision of Charles Dickens'
with the unnatural
someone who ingested
at lunch. Charac-
offscreen, solve
problems well before
a drop dead with great effi-
cacy. The cliffsNotes
— Nicholas Nickleby. It's the
pages missing. Mc-

under 18. St. John's Presbyterian
Church, 2727 College Ave., Berkeley
514-584-5946

CROWDEN SCHOOL — Feb. 7 and
Feb. 8. Guest artists: Bruce Foster,
clarinet; Dawn Foster-Dodson, cello;
Miles Graber, piano. A program of
works by Beethoven, David Baker,
Leonard Bernstein and Brahms.
\$12 adults; \$8 students and seniors. Fri-
day, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, 8 p.m. Fri-
day: 1475 Rose St., Berkeley; Satur-
day: 2135 Broadway, Oakland.
510-559-6910 or www.thecrowden-
school.org.

**50TH ANNUAL NOON CONCERT SE-
RIES** — Natalie Pao, flute, Feb. 12. A
program of works by Faure and Du-
tilleux. Young Musicians Program,
Feb. 14. Performances by youth in the
Young Musicians Program. Free. Hertz
Hall, UC Berkeley, Bancroft Way and
Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley, 510-642-
4864.

MUSIC SOURCES — "Meet Your
Maker," Feb. 16, 5 p.m. Instrument
builders Andrew Lagerquist (clavi-
chord), Kevin Fryer (harpichord),
Gary Blaise (clavichord, organs) and
Daniel Delich (historic woodwinds)

discuss their craft and answer ques-
tions.
\$18 general; \$15 seniors and students.
1000 The Alameda at Marin, Berkeley.
510-528-1685

OAKLAND EAST BAY SYMPHONY —
"Some Enchanted Evening." Michael
Morgan conducting. Feb. 8, 8 p.m.
Guest artist: Frederica Von Stade;
Emil Miland, cello; Joy Sherratt, vocal-
ist; Christopher Pucci, tenor; Marisa
Lenhardt, soprano.
\$25 to \$90. Kofman Auditorium, 2200
Central Ave., Alameda, 510-865-2256
or www.aclio.com.

PACIFIC MOZART ENSEMBLE — "Lux
Aeterna," Feb. 8, 7:30 p.m. Works by
Morton Lauridsen, Gyorgy Ligeti, Na-
dia Boulanger, Edward Elgar and Ed-
win Fissinger. \$20 general; \$15 stu-
dents and seniors. St. Mark's
Episcopal Church, 2300 Bancroft Way,
Berkeley, 415-705-0848 or www.paci-
ficmozart.org.

SACRED AND PROFANE — "Trotz,"
Feb. 8, 8 p.m. Works by Zoltan Kodaly,
J.S. Bach, Vello Tormis and Carlos
Guastavino. \$15 general; \$12 stu-
dents and seniors. St. Ambrose Church,
1145 Gilman, Berkeley, 510-524-3611.

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH —
Bruce Neswick, organ, Feb. 9, 8 p.m.
A program of works by Schiedemann,
Bach and Near. Donation. 2300 Bancroft
Way, Berkeley, 510-845-0888

DANCE

CAL PERFORMANCES — Merce Cun-
ningham Dance Company, Feb. 7 and
Feb. 8, 8 p.m. Features the American
premiere of "Fluid Canvases," as well as
"Suite for Five." \$24 to \$46
Flamenco Festival USA 2003, Feb. 15, 8
p.m. Farruquito and Juana Araya are
widely regarded as the most impor-
tant Gypsy dancers today. \$20 to \$36.
Zellerbach Hall, University of California,
Berkeley, 510-642-9988 or
www.calperforms.berkeley.edu.

**EAGLES HALL ZYDECO CAJUN
DANCES** — Dance lesson, 8 p.m.;
concert and dance, 9 p.m. \$11 to \$13
2305 Alameda Ave., Alameda, 415-285-
6285 or ddesimone.home.mind-
spring.com/Eagles/content-
eagles.html.

See EVENTS, Page C7

Louisiana

FROM PAGE C3

The dance and music scene
moves to every corner of the Bay
Area, and depending on the night
of the week you can kick up your
heels at venues as intimate as
McGrath's Pub in Alameda, or
larger halls like Ashkenaz and the
Eagles Hall. A favorite is the
renovated DeMarco's 23 Club in
San Bruno, a legendary room —
Johnny Cash and Patsy Cline
played it — with stuffed deer
heads and other artifacts on the
wall. Louisiana transplant Betty
LeBlanc organizes events at De-
Marco's, so the potlucks are al-
ways good," said Kilpatrick.

There's action outside the
clubs as well. Castillo hosts
weekly dance lessons in the
"New Orleans Room" of her
Berkeley home, while August
shoppers at the Berkeley Farmers
Market can two-step over to the
annual Cajun/Zydeco Festival
at the city park bandshell.

The family vibe remains alive
at all the CFLM events. Andrea
Rubinstein, a Bay Area resident
who loves the music so much
that she now resides part-time in
Lafayette, La., made note of the
communal spirit on her Web site,
www.sfbayou.com.

"I see something distinctive at
the dances, versus the bar and
nightclub scene. You see families
and people of all ages. Fashion
is secondary, having fun and
learning to dance well are the
motivators," she writes.

Theater

FROM PAGE C3

at the Fetterly Playhouse for
the Arts, 3467 Sonoma Blvd.,
Suite 10, Vallejo.

The Vallego Music Theatre
production, with Craig Cantley
of Richmond in the title role, is
directed by Edward Hightower.
Musical direction is by John
Montenaro.

Curtain time is 8 p.m., All
seats are \$10.

Saturday night's Gala Fund-
raiser, "Komono Our House,"
starts at 5:30 p.m. with a silent
auction/champagne reception.
Dinner, catered by City Lights,
follows at 6:30 p.m. At 7:15, a
live auction begins, running
until it's time to see the show.
Tickets are \$35.

But not your usual show. It's
"The Mikado" with a twist. Di-
rector Hightower has taken
this elaborate romantic parody
out of ancient Japan and
placed it in the present, with
all the action taking place on
New Year's Eve.

"The Mikado" will continue
at 8 p.m. Fridays and Satur-
days through March 1. Tickets
are \$16 general admission; \$14
for seniors, students and mili-
tary personnel. Call 707-265-
0733, or the message line at
707-552-ARTS.

FROM THE PHILIPPINES

The first of three performances
by Helobung Cultural Troupe,
a collective of 10 indigenous
T'boli master artists of the
Philippines, begins at 8 p.m.
tonight at the Brava Theatre
Center, 2789 24th St., San
Francisco.

The Kularts presentation
will continue at 8 p.m. Satur-
day and at 3 p.m. Sunday. The
troupe then moves to Sacra-
mento State University for a
performance at 7:30 p.m. on
Feb. 13, and to Stockton's Hag-
gin Museum Feb. 15 for a 2:30
p.m. performance/demonstra-
tion.

Helobung means "never
ending joy" in T'boli. The
troupe's performances, accord-
ing to Kularts, feature ancient

The community never forgets
one of its own, either. This Sun-
day's jam session will pay tribu-
te to John Henry Mitchell, a
memorable figure on the dance
floor. Mitchell, age 78, was killed
by a hit-and-run driver in Janu-
ary.

It would be hard to find a lo-
cal Louisiana-flavored band that
didn't have at least one alumnus
of the Danny Poullard Fairfield
garage jams. Bands like the Aux
Cajunals, Miss Frieda and the
Cajun Fusilliers, the Zydeco
Flames, Motor Dude Zydeco and
Kilpatrick's own Sauce Piquante
are among many who follow in
the footsteps of Poullard's Cali-
fornia Cajun Orchestra.

The CFLM ensures the tra-
dition is fed by maintaining a
music scholarship in Poullard's
name, and local rising stars like
Andre Thierry ("probably the
best living zydeco accordionist,"
says Kilpatrick), Chasya Thierry
and Gerard Landry get to travel
to the annual August Cajun/Cre-
ole Week in Elkins, West Virginia.
While Poullard's heart stopped in
his back yard nearly two years
ago, the local musicians who
learned from him are working to
ensure that it never really stops
beating.

Brian Kluepfel is a freelance
journalist who has lived in the
burbs, the Bronx, Bolivia, and
Berkeley. He can be reached at
bkluepfel@hotmail.com.

rituals, history and myth in
epic chants, the rhythmic virtu-
osity of blown gongs, the
sweetness of the loil flute,
mythical buzz of the kumbing
mouthpump, and courtship
dances.

Tickets are \$15 in advance,
\$18 at the door, and \$12 per
ticket for advance group sales
of 10 or more. Call 415-647-
2822, or visit
www.ticketweb.com.

**VERY EARLY, OR VERY
LATE:** Never underestimate
the surprise component of the
Shotgun Players and their in-
trepid leader, Patrick Dooley.
Shotgun Theatre Lab, a spin-
off from the mother ship dedi-
cated to new and experimental
works, opens its 2003 season
Monday. The date's right. Sur-
prise No. 1.

No. 2 is the name of the
play by H. Gayle Harlan: "The
Pintucci Family Christmas: a
bleak comedy."

That makes it either the ear-
liest entry in the December
2003 holiday season, or the last
straggler over the finish line,
more than a month after Santa
stabled his reindeer.

Anyway, as the Shotgunners
set the scene for us: "Pa Pin-
tucci, his sister Auntie and Lit-
tieSis prepare the family home
for the arrival of Junior who is
coming home with Itel, a lady
friend of his from college. Itel
assumes she is being brought
home as junior's girlfriend, but
little does she know that other
plans have been made for her.

"Watch as the family disinte-
grates by the glow of the holi-
day fire! HA HA HA HA!"

Play continues Mondays and
Tuesdays at 8 p.m. through
Feb. 25 at La Val's Subter-
ranean, 1834 Euclid Ave.,
Berkeley. Tickets are \$10. Call
510-704-8210.

Send items of interest to Jack
Tucker c/o the West County
Times, 4301 Lakeside Drive,
Richmond, Ca. 94806; fax to
510-262-2776; e-mail to
jtucker@ccetimes.com, or call
510-262-2768. Include a contact
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Eclectic Waybacks in forward motion

By Paul Freeman
CORRESPONDENT

The Bay Area-based band the Waybacks brings its self-described brand of "acoustic mayhem" to the Freight & Salvage tonight.

The sound draws from diverse influences, including bluegrass, Celtic, Western swing, country, rock, jazz and world music. The group's current CD, "Burger After Church," demonstrates how it can turn all of those elements into a cohesive style.

The Waybacks formed in 1999. Guitarist-vocalist Stevie Coyle, a Lafayette resident, had been in another band with Chojio Jacques, who plays fiddle, mandolin and guitar. The lead singer of that group decided to marry and settle down, so the band dissolved.

Coyle and Jacques played solo and duo gigs. Coyle recalls, "We mixed and matched and added on from previous bands, the way bands do. You move in and out of them, reconfigure and deconfigure."

They soon found lead guitarist James Nash. The three shared a chemistry, musically and personally. "In retrospect, it all just seemed like it was supposed to happen," Coyle says.

After their first album, "Devolver," the bassist and drummer departed. "We started getting lots of tour offers and headed out on

PREVIEW

- **WHO:** The Waybacks
- **WHEN:** 8 tonight
- **WHERE:** Freight & Salvage, 1111 Addison St., Berkeley
- **HOW MUCH:** \$17.50
- **CONTACT:** 510-548-1761, www.thefreight.org

the road quite a lot. Those two fellas were involved in the sort of gainful daytime employment that offers 401(k) programs and pension plans that the deep-pockets organization known as the Waybacks was not offering at the time ... and still is not," Coyle quips. "So they had to stay home."

They were able to find two replacements — stand-up bassist Joe Kyle Jr. and drummer Chuck Hamilton — and continued building a following throughout North America. They have made attention-getting appearances at major festivals, including Kerville, Strawberry, Winnipeg and Merlefest.

Coyle has noticed a renewed interest in acoustic music. "It's partly due to the 'O Brother Where Art Thou' phenomenon. That was certainly a shot in the arm. But even before then, certainly in the Bay Area, the acoustic music scene — bluegrass

and old-time and folk music — had been enjoying a real resurgence all by itself."

Coyle credits the Grateful Dead for helping to ignite that interest.

"The Dead was so runaway eclectic. Jerry Garcia did lots of acoustic albums with David Grisman. He played banjo and pedal steel. A lot of folks younger than the baby boom generation got into the Grateful Dead and into acoustic music that way. They're getting into it through the whole jam band scene that grew up in the wake of Jerry Garcia's death and the disassembly of the Grateful Dead. And there are some extremely well-educated, very young people who are interested in the history, who know the roots of the music and understand the lineage. They can take it back to the turn of the century and beyond."

The Waybacks enjoy spontaneity in their own lively performances. But they don't carry it to an extreme. "Jam band," in some people's minds, is a great compliment but in others' is the worst dig imaginable. On the downside, the idea of jamming within songs can turn into 45-minute, aimless noodling sessions, where you're treading water, waiting for the muse to tap you on the head and make something fabulous come

out. "We try and stretch out a little bit on various tunes where the chord structure is satisfying enough to allow some extensive improvisation. But we don't tend to kind of 'jam out,' as they say. The longest we've gone is probably 20 minutes."

Coyle grew up in Southern California, in Arcadia, a little suburb of Los Angeles. "It's best-known for the Santa Anita race-track and the county arboretum where Johnny Weissmuller wrestled rubber alligators in the Tarzan movies."

Coyle's father ran Spanish-language radio stations and brought home all sorts of incongruous promo albums. During boyhood, "Alvin & the Chipmunks Sing the Beatles Hits" prompted Coyle to pick up an inexpensive Stella guitar at a pawn shop.

His neighbors played bluegrass at Disneyland and he'd hear them rehearse. "My brother and I would grab our little cheeseball guitars and run over there and say, 'Gee, Davey, we can play a C-chord and a G7-chord, can't you show us how?' He took a little interest in us and gave us a few lessons. Davey is David Lindley, who is now a big hero of ours, as well."

After attending high school in



VARIOUS MEMBERS of the Waybacks have come and gone since the band first formed in 1999, but the current group shares some common ground.

Salinas, college at Santa Clara University, Coyle toured the country with the world's smallest circus — the Royal Lichtenstein. He later played in the groups the Foremen and the Frontmen prior to forming the Waybacks, a group that clicked from its earliest jams.

Over the course of their travels, the Waybacks have had opportunities to perform with their heroes. "We played a gigantic festival in North Carolina last year, the Merle Watson folk festival. It's a four-day event with 80,000 people attending. There are 14 stages all going at the same time. It's just unbelievable."

"The bookers at Anger and Mike ... the original David ... could sit in with ... 'What is that, a trick course we don't ... wonderful. It occurred stage there that, we ... earlier, we were ... records, sitting on ... bedrooms, with our ... laps, trying to ... were doing. And ... were, onstage, playing ... We've had a chance ... Bob Weir, with Tom ... of great folks. It's ... true."

Events

FROM PAGE C7

510-637-0200 or www.oaklandlibrary.org. **EBONY MUSEUM OF ARTS** — Specializing in the art and history of Africa. The collection, which was on display in the museum's Jack London Village branch, has been incorporated with the material in the 14th Street Victorian Museum building, the site of the original museum. Free admission; \$2 guided tour. Monday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. 1034 14th St., Oakland. 510-763-0141.

MAGNES MUSEUM — "Hidden in the Walls: The Time Capsule from San Francisco's Lost Sanctuary," closing Feb. 16. Inspired by a recent discovery of a time capsule, the exhibition reveals the untold story of a pioneer congregation and the spirit of a changing city.

"Stephanie Snyder: Hamakon (The Place)," closing Feb. 16. A mixed-media installation examining the intersection of sacred space, religious practice and historical memory.

"Sharing the Screen: Israelis and Palestinians in the San Francisco Jewish Film Festival," closing Feb. 16. A cinematic exhibition featuring a dozen film excerpts exploring Jewish-Arab and Israeli-Palestinian themes.

SECOND SUNDAYS — 2 p.m. Free with museum admission. Feb. 9: Panel Discussion: The Architecture of Jewish Sacred Spaces.

\$4 adults; \$3 students and seniors; children under 12 free. Monday through Thursday, noon to 5 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 2911 Russell St., Berkeley. 415-591-8800 or www.magnesiummuseum.org.

MILLS COLLEGE ART MUSEUM — "Angle of Repose," closing Feb. 16. Canan Tolun, Turkish painter and architect, will use steel and grass to create works of art.

"California Paintings 1910 to 1940," through March 6. Featuring 40 paintings by California artists including Maynard Dixon, Maurice Braun, Joseph Raphael and Ann Bremer.

"Subtle Sight," through March 6. An exhibition of site specific interventions by contemporary artists including Stephanie Syluco, Greg Niemeyer, Trevor Phelan, Talia Konkli, Tina Wolfe, Tomas Vanek and Chris Solars.

"Many Roads: 150 Years of Mills College," through March 6. An exhibition organized by the staff.

Free. Tuesday, Thursday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. 5000 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland. 510-430-2164 or www.mills.edu/MCAM/mcam.home.html.

OAKLAND MUSEUM OF CALIFORNIA — "Quizzical Rite: The Personal Photography of Roni Partridge," through June 22. An exhibition of 100 photographs, including photo cubes, collages, mixed media works and a reconstruction of his darkroom.

"Shaping Possibility: Pacific Rim Sculptors Group Invitational," through April 2. A survey exhibition intended to inspire new ways of looking and seeing, prompting the viewer to reconsider perceptions of art and the world around us. At the Oakland Museum Sculpture Court: Jerry Ross Barnish, Jane Grimm, Cynthia Handel, Margaret Herscher, Richard Knight and Nikki Schragar. At Gallery 555: Ed Clapp, Al Honig, Meadowsweet Dairy, Silvia Polito and Susan Leibovitz Steinman. The gallery is located at 555 12th St., Oakland.

"Wild Wings: The Waterfowl Art of Harry Curieux Adamson," through March 30. Forty-five oil paintings of California wildlife, including waterfowl migration patterns and the nature of avian flight.

"California's Closest: From Flapper to Rap," through March 2. The exhibit explores how California's cultural diversity, entertainment industry and leisure lifestyle impact the nation's clothing styles, from decorated hippie jeans to alluring Hollywood dresses.

"State of Emergency: Disaster Response in California," through March 30. An exhibition offering a historical overview of disasters beginning with the 1906 San Francisco. The exhibit includes Maggie Hallahan's photography, recovered objects, maps, and emergency response equipment.

"The Rustler Ranch Mastodon Project," ongoing. Visitors are invited to watch staff members of the Natural Sciences Department prepare a nearly complete mastodon for exhibit. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

SPECIAL EVENTS — Free with museum admission unless noted otherwise.

"California Cultures Book Fair," Feb. 7, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Annual showcase of local children's authors and illustrators, as well as African Roots music and a book-making workshop.

"Black California: Community Dialogues," Feb. 7, 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Joyce Carol Thomas discusses "The Joy of Writing Children's Books."

"Shadow Soldiers: To the Range of Light from the Golden Gate," Feb. 10, 11 a.m. A portrayal of Eliza Bowman, buffalo soldier from the Presidio, by

Yosemite park ranger Shelton Johnson. Free.

"The Quest for Freedom Moves West: The Underground Railroad in California," Feb. 13, 1 p.m. Lecture by Guy Washington. Free.

"Black History Month Jubilee: The Musical Traditions of Working California," Feb. 16, noon to 4 p.m. Hear true tales, sing along to work songs, learn about the black experience and participate in art activities. Free with museum admission.

"Online Museum," Thursdays, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Explore the museum's collection on videodisks in the History Department Library.

DAYTRIP TOURS — Docent Gallery Tours, Saturday and Sunday, 1:30 p.m.

Art à la Carte, ongoing. Art docents offer a variety of specialized tours focusing on one aspect of the museum's permanent collection. Wednesday, 12:30 p.m. Free with museum admission. \$6 general; \$4 seniors and students; free children age 5 and under; second Sundays are free to all. Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 5 p.m.; first Friday of the month, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. 1000 Oak St., Oakland. 888-046-MUSE or www.museumca.org.

PARDEE HOME MUSEUM — The historic Pardee Mansion, a three-story Italianate villa built in 1866, was home to three generations of the Pardee family who were instrumental in the civic and cultural development of California and Oakland. The home includes the house, grounds, water tower and barn. Reservations recommended. \$5 general; free children under 12. Tours: Friday and Saturday, noon, 672 11th St., Oakland. 510-444-2187 or www.pardeehome.org.

RICHMOND MUSEUM OF HISTORY — Permanent exhibits highlight Richmond's cultural, industrial and architectural legacy. "Places of Faith and Worship," documenting the history of the many churches that reflect Richmond's diverse cultures and lifestyles. Free. Wednesday through Sunday, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. 400 Nevin Ave., Richmond. 510-235-7387.

UC BERKELEY ART MUSEUM — "MATRIX 2010: Cerith Wyn Evans, Take your desires for reality," Feb. 9. A pyrotechnic installation using mirrors, neon lights and orchids fertilized with the artist's urine will be ignited at dusk.

"Fast Forward II," closing Feb. 9. A sequel to "Fast Forward," this exhibition continues to show how the Berkeley Art Museum's collections have grown over the past five years.

"MATRIX 202: A Matter of Time," through March 23. An exhibition of works by Berni Searle.

"Fred Wilson: Objects and Installations, 1979-2000," through July 20. Featuring 20 works exploring museum practice and the art of collecting.

"Aftermath," through July 20. Addressing the themes of conflict, war and the ways in which they can be seen within material culture.

"Intaglio Prints," through March 16. An exhibition of works on paper by avant-garde composer John Cage, best known for his experimental music.

"XXL II," through March. Showcasing the biggest works of art, including large-scale paintings and sculptures from Gay Outlaw, Jonathan Borofsky, Petah Coyne and David Ireland.

LECTURES — Cerith Wyn Evans, Feb. 9, 3:30 p.m. A discussion of the artist's miniMatrix installation, a fire-work piece which will be ignited.

Lyne Kimura, Feb. 16, 3 p.m. The artist traces how different ink-painting styles and subjects are intertwined with the search for enlightenment in China and Japan.

\$8 general; \$5 seniors, students and youth ages 12 to 18; free children under age 12 and UC Berkeley students free Thursdays. Wednesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. 2626 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. 510-642-0808 or www.bampfa.berkeley.edu.

UC BERKELEY HEARST MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY — "Native California Cultures," ongoing. This is a permanent exhibit of some 500 artifacts from the museum's California collections, the largest and most comprehensive collections in the world devoted to California Indian cultures.

The exhibit includes a section about Ishi, the famous Indian who lived and worked with the museum. Yana tribal baskets and a 17-foot Yurok canoe carved from a single redwood.

\$2 general; \$1 seniors; \$0.50 youths age 16 and under; free on Thursdays for all. Wednesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Kroeber Hall, Bancroft Way and College Avenue, Berkeley. 510-643-6413-1193, ext. 4 or www.qal.berkeley.edu/~hearst

UC BERKELEY MUSEUM OF PALEONTOLOGY — "Tyrannosaurus Rex," ongoing. A 20-foot tall, 40-foot long replica of the fearsome dinosaur. The replica is made from casts of bones of the most complete T. Rex skeleton yet excavated. When unearthed in Montana, the bones were all lying in place with only a small piece of the tailbone missing.

"Pteranodon," ongoing. A suspended skeleton of a flying reptile with a wingspan of 22 to 23 feet. The Pteranodon lived at the same time as the dinosaurs.

California Fossils Exhibit," ongoing. An exhibit of some of the fossils that have been excavated in California.

Free. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Lobby, Valley Life Sciences Building, University of California, Berkeley. 510-642-1821 or www.ucmp.berkeley.edu

USS HORNET MUSEUM — Come aboard the USS Hornet, a World War II aircraft carrier that has been converted into a floating museum. The Hornet, launched in 1943, is 899 feet long and 27 stories high. During World War II she was never hit by an enemy strike or plane and holds the Navy record for number of enemy planes shot down in a week. In 1969 the Hornet recovered the Apollo 11 space capsule containing the first

men to walk on the moon. The recovered Apollo 11 net was designated a National Landmark and is now on display. Visitors can tour the ship, view World War II artifacts and experience a simulated launch from the carrier.

EXHIBITS — "Hornets at Sea" This exhibit chronicles the history of U.S. Navy's Hornet name, from the Civil War through the Civil War Boomerangs and the World War ASW in the Pacific.

This exhibit honors the nine Warfairs (ASW) who signed to protect America's Cold War. As a consequence, the new ASW group the exhibit traces the Hunter-Killer ASW group and the role of the Squadrons, squadrons, and planes.

SPECIAL EVENTS — "Her Red Hot Skillet," a.p.m. to midnight. A night of music and dancing. "Flight Deck Fun," ongoing. Landing Signal Officers, how to bring in a plane for a landing on the Hornet, try the signals. Times vary. Free with admission. "Protestant Divine Service," a.m. Hornet Chaplain conducts church services on the Hornet. One is welcome and served immediately by the Navy. \$12 general; \$10 students and military; \$5 youths ages 5 to 18; under age 5, Daily. 10 Pier 3 (enter at Alameda Alameda Point Alameda).

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Auto Plus

Supplement to The Montclair, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Alameda Journal

Friday, February 7, 2003

Section D

Classic Classics: Owners decide to sell '68 Mercury after 35 years [D2]

SHELLE KREBS
Freewheeling

makers
the new life
old models

MOTOR MATTERS

part of the new year marks
the auto show sea-
son and heritage are
important themes.

panies are reinventing
their brands or certain
by slumming through their
books to see what worked

Chrysler, the focus is
the Hemi engine, rein-
vented in modern form last fall,
its Durango sport utility
nearly identical to the pro-
posed 2004 version.

horsepower supercharged
the Hemi powers the
SRT-8 concept, an
evolution of a new American

production in 2004
vehicle from a new rear-
drive architecture to be used
in mid-size and large cars.
Dodge name on a vehicle
crossed between a rally race
sport utility vehicle.

also continues its reinven-
tion with the edgy
last year, by introduc-
ing the SRX.

on the CTS, the SRX is a
between a sport utility and a
Cadillac also goes to
with the XLR roadster and
V16-powered, \$100,000-

Motor attempts to re-
Pontiac as its performance

KEWHEELING, Page D3



MOTOR MATTERS

MAZDA6 for 2003, is a dynamic car with a focus on offering its occupants a sensational, sporty ride. It has all the amenities of a full-size car in a smaller package.

Mazda6 is mid-size, all-new 2003 flagship sedan

MOTOR MATTERS

The pride and joy of a car-
maker's lineup is its flagship ve-
hicle, which typically is a soft-riding,
full-size sedan. But not Mazda.

Since doing away with the Mil-
lenia, the automaker is rolling out
an all-new flagship vehicle that is
not full-size at all. It is the mid-size
Mazda6 sports sedan.

Mazda6 is a dynamic car with a
focus on offering its occupants a
sensational, sporty ride. Its founda-
tion is a stiff body structure for
sporty handling.

Mazda's new sedan is available

in two models: the Mazda6 i with a
base price of \$18,530 and the
Mazda6 s which starts at \$21,100.

My test-drive model was the
Mazda6 i, which came equipped
with a four-cylinder engine mated
to an optional four-speed automatic
transmission.

The 2.3-liter, 16-valve four-cylin-
der powerplant has a horsepower
rating of 160 at 6,000 rpm and a
torque rating of 155 pound-feet of
torque at 4,000 rpm.

Mated to the automatic trans-
mission the performance during my
test drive was only adequate.

CONNIE KEANE
Keane on Wheels

When driving a vehicle with a
four-cylinder, I always prefer to have
the engine linked to the manual
transmission because the perfor-
mance capabilities of the power-
plant shine through better.

The Mazda6 s has a stronger
engine under its hood. Its power is
derived from a 3.0-liter, 24-valve, V6
engine that puts out 220 horse-

power at 6,300 rpm and 192 pound-
feet of torque at 5,000 rpm.

For sensational driving, the 3.0-
liter V6 comes standard with a five-
speed manual transmission.

The V6 also is offered with an
automatic transmission. This trans-
mission is a five-speed electroni-
cally controlled dual-mode gearbox,
allowing the driver to operate in
standard automatic or in hand-op-
erated up-and-down shifting by us-
ing "plus" and "minus" cues.

Mazda's exterior design for its
new sedan is not typical of flagship
sedans: refined, stately elegance.

Rather, the automaker shaped the
sheetmetal to convey speed and
performance.

The Mazda6 is bold with mus-
cular proportions and a confident,
low stance. Some of the defined
features that quickly caught my eye
on the tester were the low-profile
17-inch wheels and tires and the
pronounced fender flares.

My tester's all-season tires and
five-spoke cast aluminum wheels
were part of the \$860 Sport Pack-
age that included fog lamps and a

See KEANE, Page D3

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Gas-guzzling 1968 Mercury given an early retirement

MOTOR MATTERS

In the mid-1960s George and Jean Dusheck were blessed with a daughter. During that era many young parents in Cinnaminson, N.J., bought station wagons, and the Dushecks were no exception.

Their initial entry into the world of wagons was a second-hand Ford. They discovered the utilitarian wagon concept worked well for their family. "We found that we liked wagons," Mrs. Dusheck reports.

By 1967 the trial period for the Ford wagon was complete with both Dushecks concurring that a new, top-of-the-line station wagon was in order. In October of that year they went shopping and, eventually, found what they were looking for in Camden, N.J.

The car of their dreams was a 1968 Mercury Colony Park with wood trim blending nicely with the medium gold metallic paint. An unusual optional extra on any station wagon was the black vinyl roof covering. They drove home to Cinnaminson in their new car.

The 4,331-pound Mercury is 17-feet, 9.5-inches long and 6.5-feet wide. Such enormous dimensions were required to accommodate the 10 passengers that the car was advertised to carry.

Behind the two conventional rows of seats are a pair of facing seats by the tailgate.

"It has pretty much everything," Mrs. Dusheck admits. Her Colony Park is equipped with an air conditioner, Merc-O-Matic, black vinyl roof, power steering, rear-facing seats, rear load leveler, deluxe interior, power disc brakes, radio, roof rack, 390 c.i.d. V8 engine, tinted glass, white sidewall tires, visual check panel, rear seat speaker, deluxe seat belts and a heavy-duty battery for a total of \$1,590.98 in op-

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tions.

"It had a lot of class," Mrs. Dusheck says. She says she always was proud to be seen driving her Colony Park.

The standard 390-cubic-inch V8 engine developed 315-horsepower to ensure she never lacked power to move her big car. Torque was off the chart measured at 427 pound-feet at 2,800 rpm.

With optional expenses added in, the purchase price in 1967 dollars was \$5,576.55.

The Colony Park had the famous Ford patented three-way tailgate enabling the rear door to drop as a tailgate, swing open to the side as a door or remain closed with the glass rear window being lowered into the tailgate. The rear bumper has two rubber steps built in to assist access to the side facing rear seats.

Surprisingly, the well-optioned Colony Park does not have power windows. The hand cranks, however, work quite well.

The vehicle's interior is all black from the scar-free headliner down to the relatively unused carpeting. Near the two-spoke steering wheel with a 180-degree horn ring are four warning lights to alert the driver that:

- The seat belts aren't buckled.
- One of the doors is ajar.
- The parking brake is not released.
- The fuel level is down.

"I always felt good in it," Mrs. Dusheck says, "and I always felt safe in it, too."

She used her wagon the way most mothers did 35 years ago, driving her daughter to school, to scouts, to music



THIS 1968 MERCURY COLONY PARK station wagon served its owners well before being garaged with just 100 miles on the odometer. Now, they want to find a buyer after getting it in running condition again.

lessons, to sports activities and one memorable year, to bowling for a birthday party with all her daughter's guests aboard.

"Of course," Mrs. Dusheck reminds, "nobody used seat belts in those days."

The family's English sheep dog appreciated the cavernous cargo area on the way to several events in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia and Florida.

"As the years went by," Mrs. Dusheck says, "we found that we didn't need that big car."

When the first gasoline crunch came in 1973 they decided to take their big, thirsty, Mercury with its four-barrel carburetor out of service until the price of gasoline came back down.

Because the Mercury delivered gas

mileage of about 12 mpg the decision was easily made to drain all the fluids, remove the battery and park the Mercury in the garage.

The original plan was to return the car to daily service after the gas prices returned to normal. A small, thrifty, import was purchased for the duration.

Some time later, the final time Mrs. Dusheck drove her Mercury, she says it was still a comfortable car. However, she adds, "It was like there was a mile of car in front of me and a mile and a half behind."

Garaged daily until 1973, the big car was put away with the odometer having just rolled over 39,000 miles.

The years quickly went by, and after

1978 the Dushecks quit term life insurance coverage on the Mercury in the garage almost was for October 2002, 35 years after chased.

While cleaning house, they were never going to get the Mercury on the road for their own use.

They enlisted help from a son to put the powerful car in worthy condition. With that help they could find a good home for the Mercury Colony Park in new condition.

If you have a vehicle of interest to "Classic Classics" readers, write to Vern Parker, 4635 Bailey Drive, Waukegan, IL 60087-4109 detailing its merits.

Shape of vehicle determines cruise control speed

KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

Q I've got one for you. When I'm driving my Chevy truck and have the cruise set for 60 mph and reach the bottom of the Sunol grade, I'm doing about 62 or 63 mph.

When I'm driving my Buick under the same conditions it hits 72 mph.

Is there a mechanical cause for this difference in speeds? Do all cars do this?

Robbie Robson, San Jose, Calif.

A All but the most recent cruise-control systems are capable of applying engine throttle but are unable to apply the brakes to maintain desired speed.

Your Buick runs away more than the truck on the long downgrade because of its aerodynamic shape, taller axle ratio and low rolling resistance tires.

Recent luxury automobiles are now being offered with adaptive cruise control (ACC), a sophisticated system using radar or laser beams to sense traffic ahead.

ACC automatically decreases throttle or applies the brakes to maintain speed and a safe following distance should a slower-moving vehicle be encountered.

Future vehicles will take this technology even further with collision warning and avoidance systems and cooperative-adaptive cruise control, which will safely allow vehicles to run closely together.

For a great tutorial on cruise control op-

BRAD BERGHOLDT
Auto QnA

eration and links to cruise control information sites, take a look at www.howstuffworks.com/cruise-control.htm.

Q The front oil pan drain on my Marquis cannot be removed to drain the oil from the front part of the oil pan.

The drain plug just rotates in either direction and does not leak. The rear-most drain plug functions normally and at each 3,000 miles I drain the engine oil.

Three different Ford/Mercury service departments tell me that the fix is to remove the engine, replace the pan and numerous other parts while fixing the problem.

One Ford mechanic said to forget the engine removal plan and just change the oil at 3,000-mile intervals. The car has 69,000 miles on it, has had excellent care and runs very well.

My wife and I are 83 and 81 years of age and do not want to buy another car at this time in our lives.

Hopefully you can suggest an effective fix that does not entail engine removal or another expensive procedure.

Charles M. Elliott, Mercer Island, Wash.

A I share the opinion of your Ford mechanic. Removing the engine to renew the oil pan is the textbook answer to the problem, but the cost-vs.-benefit is very far out of line.

The small amount of oil (about a pint) that would remain in the engine by not draining the front oil pan sump during each oil change isn't a large concern since you change the oil frequently.

Another option is to force the drain plug from the pan, prying beneath its lip as it is rotated.

An expanding rubber replacement drain plug should seal nicely even though the threads are damaged or sealing face becomes distorted.

I am a bit leery of doing this since the drain plug currently isn't causing any problems, and a failed removal attempt would likely result in a leak.

Your Marquis is equipped with a virtually bulletproof engine. I'd have no concern about driving it as is and enjoying many more years of reliable service.

Brad Bergholdt teaches automotive technology at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose, Calif.

E-mail him at Bbergholdt@Juno.com or write to him in care of Drive, Mercury News, 750 Ridder Park Drive, San Jose, CA 95190. He cannot make personal replies.

Mustang Mach 1 is neat salute to the past

BY STEVEN COLE SMITH
THE ORLANDO SENTINEL

Those of us old enough to have owned a few cars likely have a "wish I'd kept it" somewhere on the list.

Typical reflection: "Man, I remember when I bought that new Whitevermobile. Great car.

"Best I ever had. Can't believe I sold it. Wish I'd kept it."

I have a lot of those on my list. Funny, isn't it, how time erases your memories of horrible gas mileage, a rough ride, repeated mechanical problems?

I have fond memories of my 1969 Chevrolet Corvette, but if I think hard enough, I can remember when the radio stuck on one station — classical music! — and when the switch in the transmission that prevented you from starting the car in "drive" stuck, and prevented you from starting the car in any gear.

Even though my 1970 Ford Mustang Mach 1 did not have air conditioning, and had only an AM radio, I can't think of anything bad about the car.

Wait, one thing: A rod that attached to the clutch pedal broke, rather often.

I'd put the clutch in to shift, the rod would break, the clutch pedal would go straight to the floor with a thonnnng! sound, and the car would be stuck in whatever gear it was in.

But clutch rods were cheap and required one wrench to repair. I kept some rods and a wrench in the glove box.

Ford first used the Mach 1 designation for the 1969 Mustang, but the 1970 model was the best-looking, if I do say so myself.

It was that car that Ford engineers and designers used as inspiration for the 2003 Ford

Mustang Mach 1, the latest in a succession of special-edition Mustangs the company is developing to help keep some interest in the car until the all-new 2005 Mustang arrives.

The "Mach 1" badge on the rear is just like the 1970 model. The seats, with horizontal ribs, are very close, ditto the stripes on the hood.

But the neatest salute to the past is the genuine "shaker" — a big scoop that sticks up through a hole in the hood that is actually attached to the engine.

When the engine shakes, the scoop shakes — hence the name.

Of course, engines don't shake so much anymore, especially this ultrasmooth, 32-valve, double overhead camshaft, 305-horsepower, 4.6-liter V8. But it shakes a little when you accelerate hard, which the car encourages you to do often. Deja vu, all over again.

That engine is attached to a five-speed manual transmission, two more gears than my 1970 Mach 1 had, but one fewer than the 390-horsepower 2003 Mustang Cobra has.

A six-speed would have been nice in the Mach 1, but it would have raised the price, and at \$28,995 with shipping, the car is expensive enough already.

On the road, the Mach 1 handles great, due in part to the fat P225/55R-16 radials and firm suspension.

The seats are the best I experienced in the current-generation Mustang, better even than the buckets in the Cobra.

This was, in fact, the most comfortable I've been in a Mustang in years.

I sold my 1970 Mach 1, list

price \$3,620, for \$1,200, so I could buy a Plymouth Road Runner. Wish I'd kept it.

But because I didn't, this 2003 model brings back some very nice memories.

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GM's new concept resembles rolling piece of sculpture

GM's new concept car: The Buick Centieme concept car is a sleek, futuristic, luxurious sedan that combines the best of a sedan and sport car.

SPARE PARTS

Motor Matters

The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety has issued "good" and "best pick" ratings to five small and mid-size cars: Audi A4, MINI Cooper, Honda Accord, Suzuki Aerio and Toyota Corolla.

Suzuki's latest: The XL-7 now has a 12.6-inch longer wheelbase and an overall length that is 19.1 inches longer, the XL-7 offers much more interior space.

With a larger, more powerful V6 engine the mid-sized XL-7 can be equipped with manual or automatic transmission and rear- or four-wheel drive.

With prices ranging from less than \$20,000 to a little more than \$26,000 depending on trim level and options, the lavishly equipped XL-7 costs a fraction of some prestigious SUVs, yet it matches many of them feature-for-feature.

Booze on the rise: The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimated that 17,448 people were killed in alcohol-related crashes in 2001, representing 41 percent of all

highway deaths. Government statistics show the annual number of alcohol-related traffic deaths dropped steadily from 1982 to 1993, falling from more than 26,000 to about 17,900.

The figure bottomed out at 16,572 in 1999 and has gone up in each of the next two years.

Click it or ticket: Some TV shows featuring police officers in conversation while riding in a squad car often show them seated with their seat belts un-

fastened. Even if these scenes were made in a studio, the producers and directors of these shows might consider setting better examples by having their actors buckle up.

MOTOR MATTERS
BUICK CENTIEME is a concept car that combines the best features of a sedan and sport utility vehicle.



Wheeling

With its upcoming GTO, GM's new name from the Chevy nameplate, a rear-drive coupe with a 340-hp V8 engine, is based on the same platform as the new Camaro.

GM division also brings the \$35 designation on a car, described as a "super-sport" of the Chevy's Super Sport of the

when it merged with French automaker Renault, continues its revival by entering new market segments.

At the auto shows Nissan shows off its first-ever full-size truck to take on pickups from Ford, Chevrolet and Dodge. The new truck will spawn Nissan's first full-size SUV next year.

Nissan and Dodge take a crack at reinventing the minivan. The Nissan Quest focuses on style, while the Dodge Kahuna concept aims at hip California surfboarders.

Toyota presents its next-generation Sienna minivan, and the automaker also tries to rejuvenate itself by introducing Scion, a brand and line of vehicles aimed at Gen Yers.

Crossover vehicles — vehicles that combines characteristics of cars, trucks and SUVs — continue as a theme this year. Lexus delivers its second-generation version of a car-based SUV with the RX 330.

Infiniti brings to market its FX45. Volkswagen and Porsche make their first foray into sport utility land with their jointly-developed, performance-oriented, Touareg and Cayenne, respectively.

BMW shows a concept version of what could be a SUV based on its 3 Series. New, smaller sport utes include the Chevrolet Equinox, replacing the Tracker.

Luxury cars also take center stage. Mercedes-Benz launches its new ultra-luxury brand, Maybach. Bentley and Rolls-Royce show their independently produced new models.

Audi and Jaguar unveil their redesigned, mostly aluminum flagships, the A8 and XJ, respectively.

Aston Martin displays its AM V8 Vantage concept, a forerunner to the 2005 introduction of a smaller Aston Martin.

Ferrari showcases its \$670,000 Enzo.

lumbar support.

Anti-lock brakes with traction control are optional on the Mazda6 i, but are standard on the Mazda6 s. Seat-mounted, side-impact front-seat airbags are standard on both models, and a headliner curtain system is optional.

The instrument panel on my tester was illuminated at night with a dramatic red glow, which sharply contrasted with the black interior trim and brushed titanium trim around the center console and controls.

And the 60/40 split-fold rear seat offers great flexibility for carrying a variety of odd-shaped cargo.

The Mazda6 is a surprisingly accommodating flagship vehicle, offering all the amenities of a full-size sedan — just in a smaller package.

	Five-passenger, front-wheel drive	mid-size sedan
MSRP	\$18,530	\$18,530
Tested	\$22,415	\$22,415
Type	SOHC 16-valve, 2.3-liter four-cylinder	160 at 6,000 rpm
Speed	155 at 4,000 rpm	155 at 4,000 rpm
Transmission	Four-speed automatic	105 inches
Wheelbase	105 inches	39 feet (curb-to-curb)
Weight	3,061 pounds	18 gallons
Capacity	City/highway 23/29	Styling
Notes	Nothing worth mentioning	

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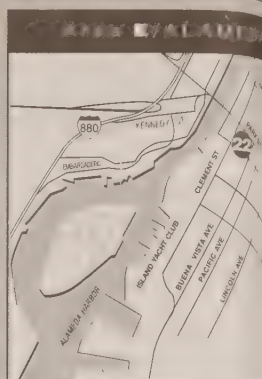
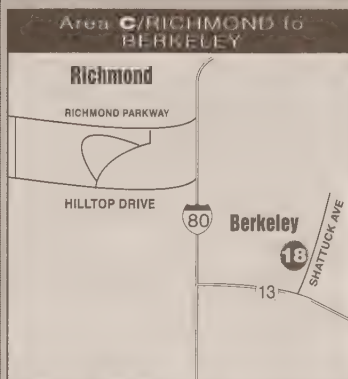
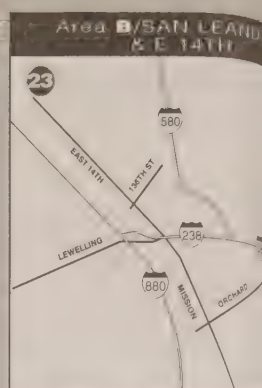
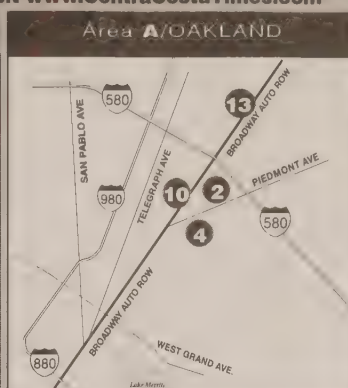
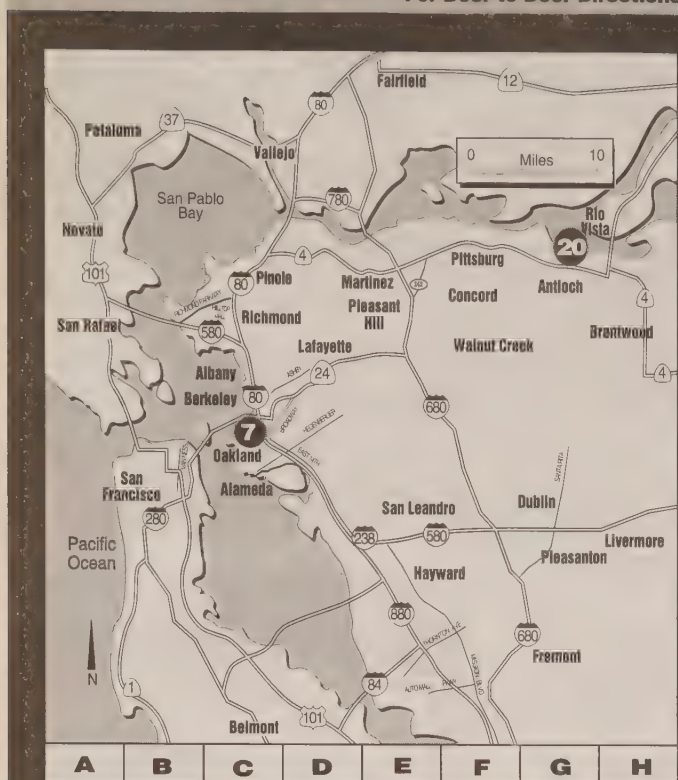
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3BD, 2BA, c/c to sch, 4 yr, no pet, no sec. 8, grn, fric, 925-340-1171

Livermore Home Rentals

3BD, 2BA, c/c to sch, 4 yr, no pet, no sec. 8, grn, fric, 925-340-1171

Manteca Home Rentals

3BD, 2BA, c/c to sch, 4 yr, no pet, no sec. 8, grn, fric, 925-340-1171

Modesto Home Rentals

3BD, 2BA, c/c to sch, 4 yr, no pet, no sec. 8, grn, fric, 925-340-1171

Oakland Home Rentals

3BD, 2BA, c/c to sch, 4 yr, no pet, no sec. 8, grn, fric, 925-340-1171

Pleasant Hill Home Rentals

3BD, 2BA, c/c to sch, 4 yr, no pet, no sec. 8, grn, fric, 925-340-1171

Rio Vista Home Rentals

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San Ramon Home Rentals

3BD, 2BA, c/c to sch, 4 yr, no pet, no sec. 8, grn, fric, 925-340-1171

Brentwood Home Rentals

3BD, 2BA, c/c to sch, 4 yr, no pet, no sec. 8, grn, fric, 925-340-1171

Clayton Home Rentals

3BD, 2BA, c/c to sch, 4 yr, no pet, no sec. 8, grn, fric, 925-340-1171

Concord Home Rentals

3BD, 2BA, c/c to sch, 4 yr, no pet, no sec. 8, grn, fric, 925-340-1171

Danville Home Rentals

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El Cerrito Home Rentals

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Emeryville Home Rentals

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Vallejo Home Rentals

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Walnut Creek Home Rentals

3BD, 2BA, c/c to sch, 4 yr, no pet, no sec. 8, grn, fric, 925-340-1171

Yuba City Home Rentals

3BD, 2BA, c/c to sch, 4 yr, no pet, no sec. 8, grn, fric, 925-340-1171

Crockett Home Rentals

3BD, 2BA, c/c to sch, 4 yr, no pet, no sec. 8, grn, fric, 925-340-1171

Danville Home Rentals

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550 Additions Remodeling & Carpentry

Water Damage, Dry Rot/termite Repair, Foundation, Drainage, Retaining Walls, Earthquake Retrofit

550 Additions Remodeling & Carpentry

Water Damage, Dry Rot/termite Repair, Foundation, Drainage, Retaining Walls, Earthquake Retrofit

555A Bookkeeping/Accounting & Taxes

PROFESSIONAL TAX SVCS. individual & business, affordable rates, home appointments avail.

555B Carpentry

CARPENTER: Kitchen/bath, deck, dry rot & termite, seismic retrofits

555C Carpets & Floors

A.Y. HARDWOOD FLOORS: installation, refinishing, carpet, tile, laminate

555D Ceilings

CEILING: Repair, spray, drywall, paint, texture, crown molding

555E Chimney Services

Chimney: Cleaning, repair, relining, masonry work

555F Computer Services

ABLE Afterhours PC Repair: virus, malware, data recovery, software installation

555G Decks & Fences

ABLE AND WILLING Fence: deck, railing, gate, fence, privacy screen

555H Drywall

ACUSTIC removal, hang, tape & joint, paint, texture, drywall, plaster

555I Electrical

ANY Electrical Project: Quality work, great price, free estimate

555J Garden and Yard Services

Complete Landscaping: Specialized cleanup, pruning, tree care, lawn maintenance

555K Garden and Yard Services

Complete Landscaping: Specialized cleanup, pruning, tree care, lawn maintenance

555L Garden and Yard Services

Complete Landscaping: Specialized cleanup, pruning, tree care, lawn maintenance

555M Garden and Yard Services

Complete Landscaping: Specialized cleanup, pruning, tree care, lawn maintenance

555N Garden and Yard Services

Complete Landscaping: Specialized cleanup, pruning, tree care, lawn maintenance

555O Garden and Yard Services

Complete Landscaping: Specialized cleanup, pruning, tree care, lawn maintenance

555P Garden and Yard Services

Complete Landscaping: Specialized cleanup, pruning, tree care, lawn maintenance

559 Electrical

Emergency: Power, lighting, wiring, electrical, fast response, 24/7 service

559 Garden and Yard Services

Complete Landscaping: Specialized cleanup, pruning, tree care, lawn maintenance

559 Home Electrical

Free Est. Free call. One time customer. Unlimited service.

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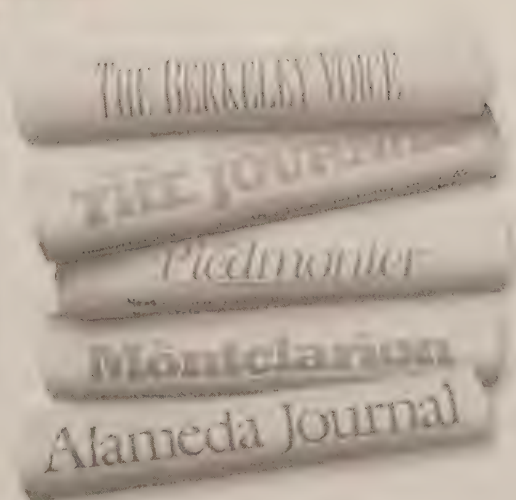
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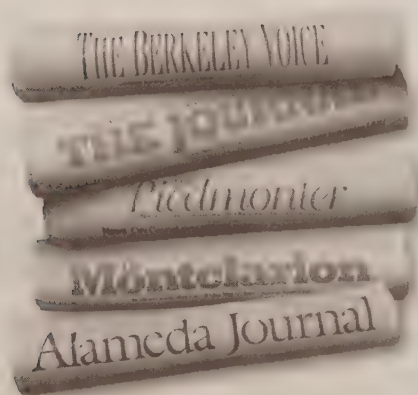
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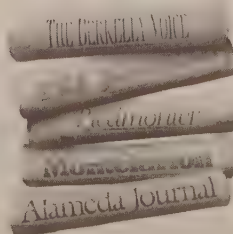
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JOHN DEERE:
Harvest Return! Returns:
Compact tractors. Now
Available. 20 P.T.O. HP &
up. New warranty.
Low rate financing.
1-800-487-7140

MASSEY Ferguson model
233 (clean) tractor, bucket
lift, 3 point hitch, wheel
blade, new, never used
rotator, 60 inch, new, 90
\$6800.00, 925-584-8722 or
925-978-2357

803 Heavy Equipment

BOBCAT 98 563, new dump
trucks, w/10 dump trailer
\$19K.000. (925) 851-8663

DUMP TRUCK 1987 10 whr.
new tires, \$10,600. (925)
459-3308 or 382-9235

FORKLIFTS, large selection
of quality, used forklifts,
\$999 up. 888-481-8181.

7 FORKIFTS L.P.O. & Elec
All in very good cond. Sling
ing at \$2250 415-716-6666

805 Vehicle Parts & Repair

1995 Porsche white, w/inter
245550x16 5800, 1995
vette white, 19007 \$2000 obo
\$1500. (925) 200-5118

CAMPER SHELL Snug
Top, 8 ft. sliding window,
new, \$800 925-372-9250

CHEVROLET 1993 350 motor
new, 19007 \$2000 obo
\$1500. (925) 200-5118

806 Sport Water Craft

1993-72 CHEVROLET
COPIER BED \$400, hood
\$500 obo. 925-756-3644

CHEVROLET 1993 350 motor
new, 19007 \$2000 obo
\$1500. (925) 200-5118

1993-72 CHEVROLET
COPIER BED \$400, hood
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807 Boats & Services

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808 Campers, Recreational Vehicles & Service

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809 Trailers

1993-72 CHEVROLET
COPIER BED \$400, hood
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new, 19007 \$2000 obo
\$1500. (925) 200-5118

1993-72 CHEVROLET
COPIER BED \$400, hood
\$500 obo. 925-756-3644

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3555 50th Ave. N. Ed. 381
Covered & Open Sides
Available-Secure Bounce
Ramp-Best Service & Low
Prices 925-679-0900

81 CORRECT OPAET 3K
Nautique Army, Ed. 381
gtr. cond \$8K 925-291-2625

CUSTOM Woody, monogru
ry deck 1986 17' Chevy
V6, 373, w/interior
\$5,000 obo (925) 580-9857

808 Campers, Recreational Vehicles & Service

GLASSPAR 18ft 90 HP
outboard, Canvas top, 1989
9200, cond. \$11,000.00
925-677-7703 925-983-2318

GLASSPAR 18ft 90 HP
outboard, Canvas top, 1989
9200, cond. \$11,000.00
925-677-7703 925-983-2318

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810 Motorhomes

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811 Motorcycles & Services

1993-72 CHEVROLET
COPIER BED \$400, hood
\$500 obo. 925-756-3644

CHEVROLET 1993 350 motor
new, 19007 \$2000 obo
\$1500. (925) 200-5118

1993-72 CHEVROLET
COPIER BED \$400, hood
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812 Vehicles Wanted

1993-72 CHEVROLET
COPIER BED \$400, hood
\$500 obo. 925-756-3644

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new, 19007 \$2000 obo
\$1500. (925) 200-5118

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813 Trucks

1993-72 CHEVROLET
COPIER BED \$400, hood
\$500 obo. 925-756-3644

CHEVROLET 1993 350 motor
new, 19007 \$2000 obo
\$1500. (925) 200-5118

1993-72 CHEVROLET
COPIER BED \$400, hood
\$500 obo. 925-756-3644

808A Trailers

UTILITY Tr. ATV/Endo,
ramp, taigate, 1/2 kwh,
\$2800.00, 925-244-4377

6' x 10' HYDRAULIC DUMP
Trailer, Dual axle, 1100 lbs,
\$2800 obo. 925-513-1314.

BOUNDER 1987 32' sel
twin bed, W/D, low miles
\$17,500. (925) 968-7823

809 Trailers

BOUNDER 1987 32' sel
twin bed, W/D, low miles
\$17,500. (925) 968-7823

BOUNDER 1987 32' sel
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1993-72 CHEVROLET
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\$500 obo. 925-756-3644

811 Motorcycles & Services

HARLEY 1993 Aniv. Ed.,
Full HD Ultra Cuts, Thr-
der header exhaust, 48K,
\$11,000.00 (925) 959-6999

HARLEY'S (2) 1997 Road-
ing, w/interior, low mi.
\$17,500. (925) 968-7823

HONDA 2002 CR250 Pro
tapper bars, mint, new
tires, 1100 lbs, 1100 lbs,
\$2500.00, 925-763-1755

812 Vehicles Wanted

HONDA 2001 CR250 Only
raced 5 times mint extras
\$3500 obo 925-678-3929

HONDA 2001 CR250, cast
parts, new plastics, never
raced \$3K.00 925-249-1752

HONDA 2001 XR 650R, ex-
cel cond, W/cover up kit,
\$4500.00, 925-382-8638

813 Trucks

HONDA 1999 S1100, 1/2
excels cond, 8K 9600
obo \$10,205-3749 lv. msg.

HONDA 1987 XL600R Dual
Sport, 11800, new tires,
fresh motor, 510665-0541

HONDA 1985 ATC200S,
runs good, 4 stroke
\$1500.00, 925-828-8828

814 Trucks

HONDA 1984 NIGHWAKH
6600, \$1300.00, please
call 925-678-0934

HONDA 1984 600RXL, et al.
\$1200.00 (925) 383-2994

HONDA 1982 XR500
Enduro, 5000 Suzuki 80
MX80 \$475, 925-288-8889

815 Vans

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\$1200.00 (925) 383-2994

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Enduro, 5000 Suzuki 80
MX80 \$475, 925-288-8889

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MX80 \$475, 925-288-8889

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818 Trucks

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HONDA 1982 XR500
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HONDA 1984 600RXL, et al.
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819 Trucks

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HONDA 1982 XR500
Enduro, 5000 Suzuki 80
MX80 \$475, 925-288-8889

HONDA 1984 600RXL, et al.
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820 Trucks

HONDA 1984 600RXL, et al.
\$1200.00 (925) 383-2994

HONDA 1982 XR500
Enduro, 5000 Suzuki 80
MX80 \$475, 925-288-8889

HONDA 1984 600RXL, et al.
\$1200.00 (925) 383-2994

821 Trucks

HONDA 1984 600RXL, et al.
\$1200.00 (925) 383-2994

HONDA 1982 XR500
Enduro, 5000 Suzuki 80
MX80 \$475, 925-288-8889

HONDA 1984 600RXL, et al.
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822 Trucks

HONDA 1984 600RXL, et al.
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HONDA 1982 XR500
Enduro, 5000 Suzuki 80
MX80 \$475, 925-288-8889

HONDA 1984 600RXL, et al.
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823 Trucks

HONDA 1984 600RXL, et al.
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HONDA 1982 XR500
Enduro, 5000 Suzuki 80
MX80 \$475, 925-288-8889

HONDA 1984 600RXL, et al.
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824 Trucks

HONDA 1984 600RXL, et al.
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HONDA 1982 XR500
Enduro, 5000 Suzuki 80
MX80 \$475, 925-288-8889

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825 Trucks

HONDA 1984 600RXL, et al.
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HONDA 1982 XR500
Enduro, 5000 Suzuki 80
MX80 \$475, 925-288-8889

HONDA 1984 600RXL, et al.
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826 Trucks

HONDA 1984 600RXL, et al.
\$1200.00 (925) 383-2994

HONDA 1982 XR500
Enduro, 5000 Suzuki 80
MX80 \$475, 925-288-8889

HONDA 1984 600RXL, et al.
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827 Trucks

HONDA 1984 600RXL, et al.
\$1200.00 (925) 383-2994

HONDA 1982 XR500
Enduro, 5000 Suzuki 80
MX80 \$475, 925-288-8889

HONDA 1984 600RXL, et al.
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828 Trucks

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HONDA 1982 XR500
Enduro, 5000 Suzuki 80
MX80 \$475, 925-288-8889

HONDA 1984 600RXL, et al.
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829 Trucks

HONDA 1984 600RXL, et al.
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HONDA 1982 XR500
Enduro, 5000 Suzuki 80
MX80 \$475, 925-288-8889

HONDA 1984 600RXL, et al.
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830 Trucks

HONDA 1984 600RXL, et al.
\$1200.00 (925) 383-2994

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the tall round cardboard
box adorned with the friendly
quaker man can be found in
80 percent of American
homes, Askins said.

With growing health re-
searcher Oats has worked
many years to educate peo-
ple about the product's versatility,
she said.

Oatmeal is kind of like a blank
canvas of being able to
do anything you can do with
it," Askins said. "There
are so many things you can do with
it."

Preserves, marmalades and
dried fruits are great oatmeal top-
pings. A sprinkling of toasted oats
can jazz up a salad. And desserts
made with oatmeal offer a satisfy-
ing, nutty texture.

If you're not a traditional oatmeal
lover, Piasecki notes, there are
many instant oatmeal flavor options
such as apple cinnamon. The in-
stant breakfast food is also good
for folks who need breakfast in a
hurry during the hectic work week.

Quaker's Oatmeal Express
doesn't even need a microwave for
preparation. Just add hot water.
Oatmeal also can be used for
filler in baking items such as meat-
loaf.

And who doesn't love an oat-
meal cookie?

Piasecki started many Midwest-
ern winter mornings as a child with
a hot bowl of oatmeal. She has
passed the tradition along to her
children, too.

"For those of us who really love
oatmeal, there's the whole comfort
factor," she said.

Oatmeal recipes

APPLE OATMEAL CRISP

1 cup brown sugar
1 cup rolled oats
1 cup all-purpose flour
½ cup butter, melted
3 cups apples, peeled, cored
and chopped
½ cup white sugar
2 teaspoons ground cinnamon

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
Lightly grease an 8-inch square
pan.

In a large bowl, combine brown
sugar, oats, flour and butter. Mix un-
til crumbly.

Place half of crumb mixture in
pan. Spread apples evenly over
crumb mixture.

Sprinkle with sugar and cinna-
mon; top with remaining crumb mix-

ture.
Bake in preheated oven for 40
to 45 minutes, or until golden
brown. Makes 8 servings.
Source: allrecipes.com.

SPICY OAT-CRUSTED CHICKEN WITH SUNSHINE SALSA

For sunshine salsa:
¾ cup prepared salsa
¾ cup coarsely chopped or-
ange sections

For chicken:
2 tablespoons canola oil
1 tablespoon margarine, melted
2 teaspoons chili powder
1 teaspoon garlic powder
1 teaspoon ground cumin
¾ teaspoon salt
1 ½ cups Quaker quick oats,
uncooked

1 egg, lightly beaten
1 tablespoon water
4 boned and skinned chicken
breast halves (about 5 to 6 ounces
each)

Chopped cilantro, optional
In small bowl, combine salsa
and orange sections. Refrigerate,
covered, until serving time.

Heat oven to 375 degrees. In
flat, shallow dish, stir together oil,
melted margarine, chili powder, gar-
lic powder, cumin and salt. Add
oats, stirring until evenly moistened.

In second flat, shallow dish, beat
egg and water with fork until frothy.
Dip chicken into combined egg and
water, then coat in seasoned oats.
Place chicken on foil-lined baking
sheet. Pat any extra oat mixture
onto top of chicken.

Bake 30 minutes or until chicken
is cooked through and oat coating
is golden brown. Serve with Sun-
shine Salsa. Garnish with chopped
cilantro, if desired. Makes 4 serv-
ings.

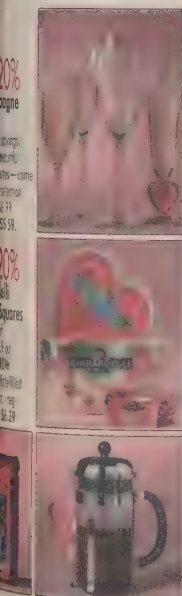
Source: Quaker Foods & Bever-
ages.

See OATMEAL, Page 2



OATMEAL CAN BE ENJOYED in many different ways and with different toppings, including plain with sugar, milk and butter, topped with strawberry jam or with cinnamon and raisins.

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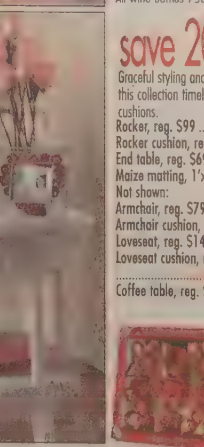
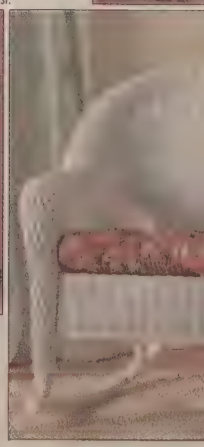
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Ten ways to eat more oats

KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

■ Substitute oats for as much as 1/3 of the flour in recipes for pancakes, biscuits, quick bread, yeast breads, cookies and coffee cakes.

■ Make your own granola by baking 3 cups of oats in a large shallow pan at 350 degrees until golden brown. After cooling, stir in nuts, sunflower seeds and large pieces of dried fruits.

■ Instead of bread or cracker crumbs in meatloaf, use oatmeal. Add ¼ cup oats per pound of lean ground beef or turkey.

■ Boost commercial refrigerated cookie dough. Knead 1 cup oats into 1 18-ounce tube of refrigerated sugar, chocolate chip or peanut butter dough. Follow package directions for baking.

■ With dessert crisps, add oats as a topping.

■ Add toasted oats to tossed salads, fruit salads, tuna salads, egg salads. To toast oats, bake 1 cup oats at 350 degrees until golden brown. Cool before

adding to salads.

■ Substitute oats for nuts in favorite cookie recipes to trim fat.

■ Make an oat spread. Add 2/3 cup toasted oats to 1 ¼ cups peanut butter and ½ cup honey. Spread on apple or pear slices or whole-grain crackers.

■ Substitute oats for flour or bread crumbs as a coating for chicken or fish. Process oats in blender. Froth egg whites and water. Dip chicken or fish pieces in egg mixture, then dip in oat flour to coat. Repeat.

Transfer to baking sheet, spraying lightly with cooking spray. Bake as usual. You also can add parmesan or other favorite seasonings to the oat mixture.

■ Boost your fruit smoothie. Add ¼ to 1/3 cup quick or old-fashioned oats to a blender container with fruit, low-fat yogurt and fruit juice. Blend until smooth.

Source: Quaker Foods & Beverages

Have a heart — try one that's dipped in chocolate

NAPS!

This Valentine's Day, you can impress your sweetheart with these sweet hearts, a recipe from "Grandma's Kitchen: Treasured Family Recipes" found online at www.cookingvillage.com.

BLACK & WHITE HEARTS

1 cup (2 sticks) butter, softened
3/4 cup granulated sugar
1 package (3 oz.) cream cheese, softened

1 large egg
1 1/2 tsp. vanilla extract
3 cups all-purpose flour
1 cup semisweet chocolate chips

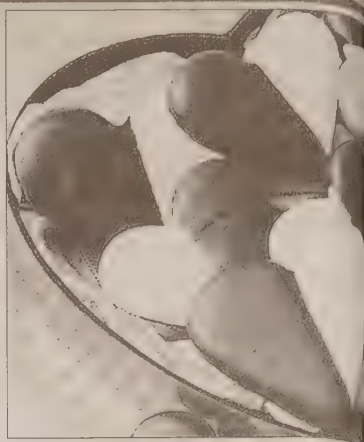
2 Tbsp. vegetable shortening
1. Combine butter, sugar, cream cheese, egg and vanilla in a large bowl. Beat with an electric mixer set at medium speed, scraping bowl often, until light and fluffy. Add flour; beat until well mixed. Divide dough in half; wrap each half in waxed paper. Refrigerate until firm, about 2 hours.

2. Preheat oven to 375°F. Roll dough, 1 half at a time, to 1 1/4-inch thickness on lightly floured surface. Cut with lightly floured, heart-shaped cookie cutters. Place 1 inch apart on ungreased baking sheets. Bake until edges are very lightly browned, about 7 to 10 minutes. Remove immediately to wire racks and let cool completely.

3. Melt chocolate chips and shortening in a small saucepan over low heat until melted, about 4 to 6 minutes. Dip half of each heart into melted chocolate. Refrigerate on baking sheets or trays lined with waxed paper until chocolate is firm. Store, covered, in refrigerator.

Prep Time: 25 minutes, chilling Time: 2 hours, baking Time: 7 to 10 minutes, makes 31/2 dozen cookies.

To learn more, including meal suggestions and cooking tips, or to subscribe to Grandma's Kitchen, you can visit the Web site at www.cookingvillage.com.



BLACK & WHITE HEARTS are a scrumptious way to sweet tooth or a sweetheart according to the experts at www.cookingvillage.com.

Oatmeal

FROM PAGE 1

OATMEAL CHIPPER SKILLET COOKIE

½ cup (1 stick) butter, softened
½ cup firmly packed brown sugar

¼ cup granulated sugar
1 egg
1 teaspoon vanilla
¾ cup all-purpose flour
½ teaspoon baking soda
¼ teaspoon salt
1 ½ cups Quaker Oats (quick or old-fashioned, uncooked)
1 cup semisweet chocolate chips

Vanilla ice cream (optional)
Caramel ice cream topping or chocolate syrup (optional)

Heat oven to 350 degrees. In large bowl, beat butter and sugars with electric mixer until creamy. Add egg and vanilla; beat well. In small bowl, combine flour, baking soda and salt. Add to butter mixture; mix well. Stir in oats and chocolate chips; mix well.

Press dough evenly into bottom of 10-inch nonstick ovenproof skillet.

Bake 20 minutes or until top is lightly browned. (Do not overbake as cookie will continue to bake after it is removed from oven.) Cool about 10 minutes. Cut into 8 to 16 wedges. Serve with ice cream and caramel topping or chocolate syrup, if desired.

Note: A quick version can be made by gently kneading 1 cup Quaker Quick or Old-Fashioned Oats (uncooked) into an 18-ounce package of refrigerated chocolate chip cookie dough. Press evenly into bottom of 10-inch nonstick ovenproof skillet. Bake at 350 degrees for 20 minutes or until top is lightly browned. Cool 10 minutes in pan. Cut into wedges. Makes 8 to 16 servings.

Source: Quaker Foods & Beverages

OATMEAL CRISPIES

1 ½ cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon salt
3 cups Quaker Oats Quick Oats
½ cup walnuts, chopped fine
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 cup shortening
2 cups firmly packed light brown sugar
2 eggs, beaten

1 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon grated orange peel
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1 teaspoon ground nutmeg
In a bowl, combine all ingredients; knead together to form a dough. Place half the dough, shaped into a rough rope, on a large piece of plastic wrap. Fold the plastic over and work dough into shape of a log 2 inches in diameter. Repeat with remaining dough. Freeze logs until hard, about 2 hours.

To make cookies, cut dough into very thin slices and place on non-stick cookie sheets. Bake in a preheated 350-degree oven for 10 to 12 minutes. Transfer to a rack to cool. Makes 8 dozen.

Source: "The Frugal Gourmet Celebrates Christmas."

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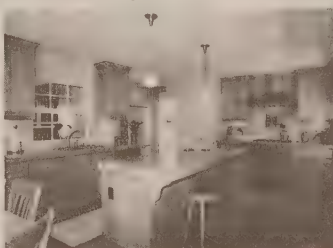
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Be sure to pick up the special Home & Garden Show Guide on Thursday, February 6th in the Valley Times/San Ramon Times and in the ANG Newspapers.

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RECADED CAKE will make you fall in love all over again ... with chocolate.

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Velvet cake for that special someone

RECIPE BY DOOR NEWSPAPERS

This recipe is an easy version of a cake that has long been popular in the southern United States. For two full bottles of red frosting — enough coloring to truly, deliciously brighten some white frosting, and for cake for Valentine's Day.

RED VELVET CAKE

For greasing a cake pan for the cake pan
25-ounce box white cake
25-ounce box vanilla instant

- pudding
- 1 tablespoon baking cocoa powder
 - 4 eggs
 - 1 cup whole milk
 - 1/2 cup oil
 - 2 ounces red food coloring (two whole bottles!)
 - 1 (16-ounce) container cream cheese-flavor frosting
- Edible red-and-white candy or cake decorations
1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees.
 2. Grease a 13-inch by 9-inch cake pan with butter, then lightly

- dust it with flour.
3. Combine the cake mix, pudding, cocoa powder, eggs, milk, oil and food coloring in a bowl. Don't use a plastic bowl! Use an electric mixer to beat the batter on medium speed for four minutes.
4. Pour the mixture into the pan and bake for 30 to 40 minutes, until a toothpick comes out clean. (If toothpick comes out red, the cake is not done.) Let the cake cool completely.
5. Frost the cake and decorate it with the candy. Serves 12.

Sayings from the heart: Making literacy sweet

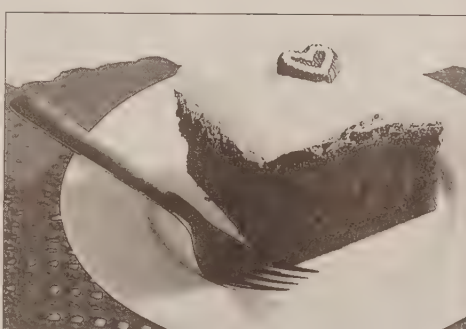
RECIPE BY DOOR NEWSPAPERS

More than a hundred years ago, Valentine's Day candy was doing much more than being the world's sweet tooth. Valentine's Day candy has also been a way for children to learn to read. In 1902, the New England Candy Company (NECCO) began manufacturing Sweethearts Hearts. The sweet treats, a Valentine's tradition, have been passed down from generation to generation. In the early 1900s, teachers and parents began using the candies for literacy. NECCO's marketing department has never been out of the loop. We thought it was time to dedicate this year's new

sayings to the topic of learning." This Valentine's Day there are 10 new sayings that emphasize the importance of education and reading. Among them are "Let's Read," "Whiz Kid," "Wise Up," "Book Club," "Teach Me," "Write Me," "Love Letter," "Class Act," "School Mate," and "Pen Pal."

The concept for the candy hearts started in the mid-1800s, when printed sayings on colored paper were placed in cookies-small crisp candies formed in the shape of a scalloped shell. In 1866, Daniel Chase, whose brother Oliver founded NECCO, invented a process by which words could be printed directly on the candy. While the Sweethearts sayings have a new twist each year, the basic recipe and the way they are made remains the same.

The edible hearts have also inspired a series of children's reading books by author Barbara McGrath. The first book, *I Love Words*, uses the famous candies to help children learn to read and illustrates the fun of letters and words



ED HAIN/DETROIT FREE PRESS

WITH IT'S BRIGHT RED COLOR and white frosting, this cake is perfect for young and old alike on Valentine's Day.

through a variety of rhymes and phrases.

To learn more about Sweethearts Conversation Hearts, which are also a low-calorie, fat-free way to show someone you care, visit the Web site at www.necco.com.

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For Valentine's Day, pamper your sweetie with this classic fudge cake

NAPSI

There has always been something seductive about chocolate. Let's face it, Valentine's Day may have started as a celebration of love, but for many it is but an excuse to indulge in the rich, dark, decadent stuff of romance, from lattes to truffles and everything in between. This year, pamper your sweetie (or yourself) with this classic "Chocolate Fudge Cake," courtesy of "Le Cordon Bleu Home Collection: Cakes" (Periplus Editions). As easy to prepare as it is to enjoy, this cake is a surefire way to start a whole new romance — with chocolate.

This deliciously wicked cake is guaranteed to delight family and friends, whether served plain or with whipped cream or ice cream.

- CHOCOLATE FUDGE CAKE**
- 1/2 cup unsalted butter
 - 1/3 cup vegetable oil
 - 1-1/4 cups sugar
 - 1 cup chopped good-quality semisweet chocolate
 - 1/3 cup milk
 - 2 cups all-purpose flour
 - 1/3 cup cocoa powder
 - 1 tablespoon baking powder
 - pinch of baking soda
 - 2 eggs
- Fudge topping:**
- 1/2 cup heavy cream
 - 1 tablespoon light corn syrup
 - 1-1/4 cups chopped good-quality semisweet chocolate

1. Preheat the oven to 325 F. Line two 6-cup loaf pans, each 8 1/2 by 4 1/2 by 2 inches.
2. Combine the butter, oil, sugar, chocolate, milk and 2/3 cup water in a large saucepan and stir over low heat until the sugar dissolves and the chocolate melts. Remove from the heat. Sift together the flour, cocoa, baking powder and baking soda into a bowl. Beat in the chocolate mixture (using a wire whisk means the mixture is less likely to form lumps).
3. Gradually beat the eggs, one at a time, into the chocolate mixture. Pour into the loaf pans and smooth the top with the back of a spoon.
- Place the pans on a baking sheet and bake for 50 minutes or until a skewer comes out clean

when inserted into the center of each cake. Cool in the pans for five minutes, turn out onto a wire rack; peel off the paper and cool completely, crust side up.

4. To make the fudge topping, bring the cream and corn syrup just to a boil in a small saucepan, then remove from the heat. Put the chopped chocolate in a heatproof bowl and gradually add the cream

a little at a time, stirring after each addition, until all the cream has been added and the mixture is smooth.

Place the bowl into a larger bowl of ice or refrigerate until the mixture has cooled and thickened. Spoon onto the cakes and spread over the top with a flexible metal spatula. It may run a little over the sides. Makes 2 cakes.

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CHOCOLATE TRUFFLE CUPS
have two kinds of chocolate nestled side by side.

METRO CREATIVE SERVICES

A deliciously romantic Valentine's Day meal

NAPSI

This Valentine's Day, you can fan the flames of romance by making an intimate dinner for two at home. food&family magazine's Andrea MacAlpine recommends this simple recipe: Take a delicious, yet easy-to-prepare menu, add soft music, blend with candlelight and dish up with a generous sprinkling of affection.

PASSION PUNCH

Empty 1 tub Crystal Light Raspberry Ice Drink Mix in large pitcher. Add 2 cups each cold cranberry juice cocktail and water; stir well. Refrigerate until chilled. Stir in half a bottle of sparkling water or club soda just before serving. Pour over frozen raspberries in champagne glasses.

SHRIMP IN LOVE PASTA

Cook a large handful of linguine water or club soda just before serving. Drain and transfer pasta to a large bowl.

Heat a skillet over medium-high heat. Add a cup of uncooked, peeled, deveined shrimp, half a 19-oz. can diced tomatoes and half a tub softened Philadelphia Spreadable Cream Cheese Spread. Stir and cook 3-4 minutes or until sauce is blended and shrimp are cooked through.

Toss a large handful of spinach leaves into cooked pasta. Pour shrimp mixture over; toss to coat. Divide between 2 bowls, or share

by eating out of the same one.

CHOCOLATE TRUFFLE CUPS

Microwave 2 squares Baker's White Baking Chocolate with 1 tablespoon milk on high for 1-1/2 minutes; stir until melted and smooth. Beat in 2 spoonfuls Philadelphia Light Cream Cheese Spread. Repeat first two steps, replacing white baking chocolate with Baker's Semi-Sweet Baking Chocolate and increasing milk to 2 tablespoons. Spoon mixtures, side by side, into 2 dessert dishes. Chill 15 minutes.

Tips to set the mood

- Write a romantic invite — "You have a reservation with your love" — and slip it in your significant other's briefcase or gym bag a few days before the big night.
- A change of scenery can spice things up. Move the table to a cozy corner, in front of the fireplace, or simply throw a blanket and some cushions on the floor.
- Nothing casts a spell like gentle, flickering candlelight. Fill the room with votives or bask in the glow of a single pillar centerpiece.
- Red echoes its radiance on everything around it. Create that first blush of love with a red tablecloth, napkins and place mats.
- For more great recipes and entertaining ideas, see the current issue of food&family magazine. To start receiving your free magazine, visit the Web site at www.foodandfamily.com/magazine.

Sweet reading for the hopelessly romantic in y

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In time for the romantic season come these good-looking food-related tomes:

■ **"Living Romantically Every Day"** (Andrews McMeel, \$22.95) by Barbara Taylor Bradford, conjures up plenty of rosy scenarios. There are numerous dreamy suggestions; lists of thoughtful words and gestures the loving person can make, charming places to be, including Paris, of course — and recipes for suitably mouthwatering food. Color

photographs.

■ **"Holiday Hearts: A Collection of Inspired Recipes, Gifts, and Decorations"** (Ten Speed Press, \$14.95 paperback) by Pamela Sheldon Johns and Jennifer Barry, is mostly about food, lavishly illustrated. But the book also includes instructions for making cute decorations of the pink or heart-shaped kind, and paper and hand-stamped Valentines. Color photographs.

■ **"Real Chocolate: Sweet and Savory Recipes for Nature's Purest**

Form of Bliss" (Rizzoli, \$19.95) by Chantal Coady, a London connoisseur, focuses dramatically on the favorite sweet thing of all time.

Recipes and text embellish the chocolate color photos contribute to the sights.

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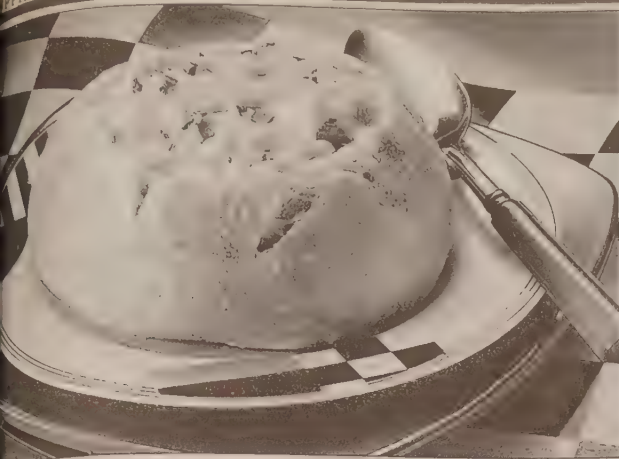
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NAPS
The fastest growing spectator sport in the United States and second only to the NFL in television ratings. Nearly one-third of the adult population rates themselves as fans and 17 of the 20 highest-rated sporting events in the country revolve around this sport. This national phenomenon? NASCAR. And fans nationwide are gearing up for the February Kick-Off 2003 season.

Millions of households, watch-race and celebrating the season as a family affair. Kids hang out with their favorite driver next to the track, and fans nationwide often are seen sporting a NASCAR T-shirt or hat and mom on the Internet chatting with other fans.

Millions rev up for the inaugural race of the 2003 Winston Cup season on the track at General Mills and its Cheesecake Factory. No. 43 Dodge driver wants to be sure that fans are properly fueled up for the big race's a race day recipe that gets the green flag:

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whole kernel corn with red
peppers, undrained
water
milk
Cooked-up chicken or
about 10 ounces
(11 ounces)

Preheat oven to 350°F.
In a large bowl, combine
ground crusty dinner rolls
with uncooked potatoes,
corn, water, milk and
to boiling in Dutch oven,
constantly, reduce heat.
Cover and simmer 15 minutes
potatoes are tender.
Stir in Cheddar cheese; sprin-
gle with bread crumb topping.
Divide into each dinner roll
bread bowl.
Chowder in bread bowls.
Time: 10 minutes; cook
minutes, makes 6 servings.
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interest to this chowder by topping
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Cookbook Hot List

LOS ANGELES TIMES

Rankings are based on a
Los Angeles Times poll of national
cookbook and independent
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1. Dr. Atkins' New Diet Revolution, by Robert C. Atkins
2. 500 Low-Carb Recipes, by Dana Carpenter
3. Suzanne Somers' Fast and Easy, by Suzanne Somers
4. The Holly Clegg Trim and Terrific Cookbook, by Holly Clegg
5. The Low-Carb Comfort Food Cookbook, by Michael Eades, Mary Dan Eades and Ursula Solom
6. Fast Food Nation, by Eric Schlosser
7. The Get With the Program! Guide to Good Eating, by Bob Greene
8. Dr. Atkins' Quick & Easy New Diet Cookbook, by Robert C. Atkins and Veronica C. Atkins
9. The Sopranos Family Cookbook, by Allen Rucker
10. Lidia's Italian-American Kitchen, by Lidia Bastianich

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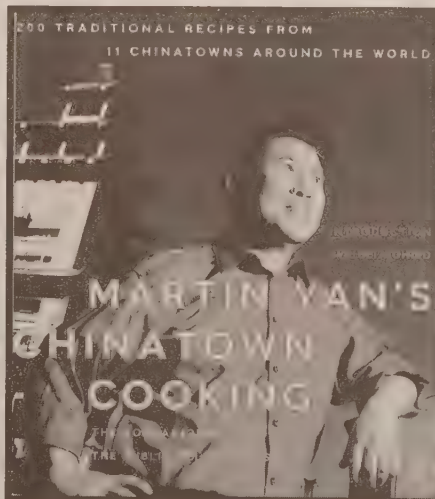
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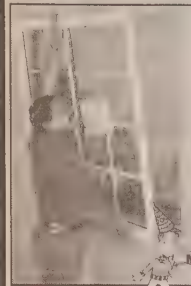
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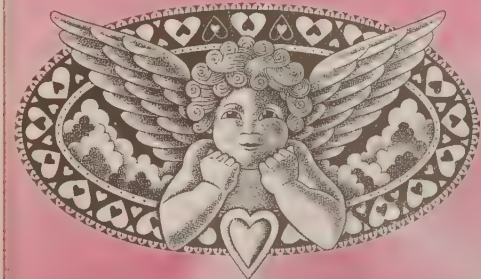
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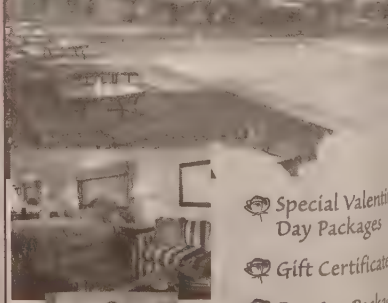
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WHERE WE LIVE OAKLAND HILLS



NEIGHBORHOODS LIKE THIS, with urban parks and stunning views of the Bay and San Francisco, many of the Oakland hills' 117,000 residents say they don't want to live anywhere else.

View from here: The highs eclipse the lows

By Matthew Leising
TIMES STAFF WRITER

OAKLAND MEANS many things to many people, but above all, it is a city of neighborhoods. In the northeast, the Oakland hills translate into a city of redwoods and streams, cafes and culture, views and wildlife, commercial villages and pop shops, with sprawling hillside mansions and modest first homes. The hills are diverse both in their residents and their geography, and the hills aren't easy to characterize. And even with all the issues, locals wouldn't live anywhere else. "You sort of meet the rest of the world here," says Pamela Merritt, a 14-year resident of the Lakeshore neighborhood. "San Francisco is a fun place to go out and to shop, but to live you want to be in Oakland." According to the 2000 U.S. Census, the Oakland hills are home to 28% of Oakland's residents. The hills area stretches from the Berkeley city limit to the shore of Lake Merritt, from west to east along the I-880 freeway to Highway 13, up to the crests above Montebello. More than 56 percent of hills residents have a college degree or better. And though the hills are often portrayed as an enclave of multimillionaires, the median household income is just over \$73,000. While not as diverse as Oakland as a whole, 2000 Census figures show the hills are quite mixed. Whites make up



JOANNA JHANDA/TIMES

PIEDMONT'S Main Park, with its renovated Exedra Plaza, is one of many the city prides itself in maintaining.

Piedmonters relish fruits of autonomy

By Lisa Coffey Mahoney
TIMES STAFF WRITER

THOUGH COMPLETELY surrounded by Oakland, Piedmont has made a name for itself. Primarily a residential area full of charming bungalows and spacious estates, the community boasts award-winning schools, great parks and top-notch city services. Piedmonters exhibit an exceptional spirit of volunteerism, routinely stepping forward to serve on the city's many committees, commissions and advisory boards. They also support fund-raising efforts, like those for the William F. Kennelly Skate Park and renovations at Exedra Plaza, the centerpiece of the city's main park. The land that makes up

See OAKLAND, Page 13

See PIEDMONT, Page 12



HIDDEN TREASURES
The varied parks, pathways and other diversions of the hills are well worth a visit — but it takes time to find them. Here are some hints on locating the hidden gems of the hills.



BURIED HISTORY
■ Catch up with VIPs like Domingo Ghirardelli, Ernie Lombardi, Henry J. Kaiser and Samuel Merritt, all in one place: Mountain View Cemetery, with its Millionaire's Row



A JUMP IN THE LAKE
■ Bejeweled by an ever-changing 'necklace of lights,' the nation's only urban salt water lake is an enduring symbol of Oakland's quest to become a great city.



THE SKY'S THE LIMIT
■ Tucked into the Oakland hills, the world-class Chabot Space and Science Center features an IMAX theater, an outstanding planetarium and numerous telescopes and stellar exhibits.



MAGNETIC MAESTRO
■ Oakland East Bay Symphony director Michael Morgan shares his passion for the arts and his rich musical talent with audiences around the Bay and students at more than 50 schools.



OAKLAND TEMPLE
■ Though it rests like a forbidden castle in the hills, the luminous Mormon Temple is open to the public and hosts a holiday light show that draws more than 20,000 visitors each year.

Editorial

Uncommon diversity

THE HUGE EXPANSE that is Oakland is the epitome of Bay Area diversity. It is black, it is white, it is Asian, it is Latino. It is flatlands and it is hills. It is waterfront and it is ridgeline. It ranges from urban blight to some of the finest living in the Bay Area, and it covers literally everything in between.

To people in other parts of the country, Oakland carries an unmistakable tough-town image.

But as with most cities, Oakland and its environs are much more than an image. Oakland is a jewel in the East Bay; an unpolished one, but a jewel nonetheless.

Oakland has a bit of an inferiority complex. How could it not? After all, it is just across San Francisco Bay from a city whose television and radio stations regularly proclaim it "the world's greatest city." Still, many believe that while San Francisco is beautiful, Oakland is much more livable.

Mayor Jerry Brown has been very busy with Oakland in the last five years. He has made some remarkable progress. From the beginning, Brown has attacked the two crucial problems that have plagued Oakland for decades: public safety and lousy public schools. His efforts haven't always been successful, but he has attacked the right things and he has made progress.

In much the same way that Oakland gets overshadowed by San Francisco, the Oakland hills are often overshadowed by Oakland.

The area achieved notoriety and attention in 1991 when a devastating wildfire ripped through the tinderbox that was the Oakland hills. In a display of public spirit or sheer stubbornness, or maybe both, most of those homes have been rebuilt, bigger and better.

But the Oakland hills are much more than that fire or the occasional mudslide that makes the news. The area is truly one of the great places to live in America. It is secluded and wooded and it has some of the best views on the planet.

Although a bit hard to define, the Oakland hills generally stretch from the Berkeley city limits to the shore of Lake Merritt, from east to west along Interstate 580 to Highway 13 and up to the crests above Montclair.

In the Oakland hills live roughly 29 percent of Oakland's 400,000 residents.

Fifty-six percent of these residents have at least a bachelor's degree. While the hills are often looked upon as a paradise for multimillionaires, the median household income is slightly more than \$73,000. The area is diverse in ethnic makeup: 56 percent of residents are white, 20 percent are African-American, 14 percent are Asian-American and 7 percent are Hispanic.

All is not perfect in the Oakland hills. Just as in many other cities, the residents are unhappy with the public schools. Many hills residents have opted to put their children into private schools.

All in all, though, there is something for everyone in Oakland and the Oakland hills. If you can't find it here, it may not exist.



LOCALS KNOW to take the kids swimming at Lake Temescal, nestled in the Oakland hills below the intersection of highways 13 and 580.

Hills bejeweled by hidden treasures

By Matthew Leising
TIMES STAFF WRITER

With 150-plus years of history, the Oakland hills and neighboring districts hide innumerable treasures, some small and tucked away, others larger-than-life. A complete list of fun things to see and do in the hills would fill an entire newspaper, but here are a few of residents' favorites:

Sibley Volcanic Regional Preserve: Take a walk back 10 million years and explore the extinct volcanoes of this beautiful park. The main volcano, Round Top, is exposed due to erosion and seismic shifts in the Berkeley hills, allowing a rare cross-sectional look at the lava-maker that leaves volcanologists quivering with joy.

Self-guided hikes through the preserve offer visitors a chance to see Round Top's ancient lava flows and vent.

The reserve is named for Robert Sibley, a director and president of the East Bay Regional Park District from 1948 to



THE RENOVATED Children's Fairyland is a haven for children and parents. Toddlers, especially, enjoy the mini-amusement park.

1958. The East Bay Skyline National Recreation Trail, which starts in Richmond and ends in Castro Valley, runs through the park as well.

Aside from the volcanic attractions, the entire park is beautiful, especially if you catch it in

the late afternoon on a foggy day as the haze burns away. The light positively shimmers. The park, at 6800 Skyline Blvd., is open from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Plot B: No, this isn't one of cult filmmaker Ed Wood's leftover scripts; it's a hidden path

that winds between back yards in Crocker-Hartman.

Like many wonderful hills, Plot B starts as a mossy staircase leading from the sidewalk. The stairs are worth following.

Look for a bus stop stone stairs on Marston Road just above Lakeside Avenue. Follow the path off to the left of the stairs out as a sometimes narrow track soon opens a tree-lined, canopied for a moment, can make get you're in the middle land.

It's a great place for morning walk or to give some running room.

Locals ask that you after your pets. Trash plastic bags are providing path's end points.

David Tennis: Tucked away on the Oakland and Piedmont

See SECRETS, Pg.

RESOURCES

Business groups

Montclair Village Association, 1960 Mountain Blvd., Suite 205, Oakland, 94611; 510-339-1000; www.montclairvillage.com

Oakland Chamber of Commerce, 475 14th St., Oakland, 94612; 510-874-4800.

Rockridge Community Planning Council, 510-814-6060.

City government

Oakland City Hall, 1 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Oakland, 94612; 510-238-3612; www.oaklandnet.com.

Piedmont City Hall, 120 Vista Ave., Piedmont, 94611; 510-420-3040; www.ci.piedmont.ca.us/welcome.htm.

City Council

Oakland City Council, 1 Frank Ogawa Plaza, Oakland, 94612; 510-238-3266; www.oaklandnet.com. The council meets Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

Mayor Jerry Brown, 510-238-3141; jrb@oaklandnet.com

Jane Brunner, District 1, 510-238-7001; jbrunner@oaklandnet.com

Danny Wan, District 2, 510-238-7002; dwan@oaklandnet.com

Nancy J. Nadel, District 3, 510-238-7003; nnadel@oaklandnet.com

Jean Quan, District 4, 510-238-7004; district4@oaklandnet.com

Ignacio de la Fuente, District 5, 510-238-7005; delafuente@oaklandnet.com

Desley Brooks, District 6, 510-238-7006; dbrooks@oaklandnet.com

Larry E. Reid, District 7, 510-238-7007; lreid@oaklandnet.com

Henry Chang, member at large, 510-238-7008; citychang@aol.com

Piedmont City Council, 120 Vista Ave., Piedmont, 94611; 510-420-3040; www.ci.piedmont.ca.us/welcome.htm.

The council meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first and third Monday of each month, except in the summer.

Mayor Valerie Matzger, 510-655-6745; vmatzger@ci.piedmont.ca.us

Michael Bruck, vice mayor, 510-654-6106; mbruck@ci.piedmont.ca.us

Abe Friedman, 510-654-0409; afriedman@ci.piedmont.ca.us

Nancy McEnroe, 510-652-1058; nmcenroe@ci.piedmont.ca.us

Jeff Wieler, 510-428-1648; jwieler@ci.piedmont.ca.us

Fire

Oakland Fire Department, 150 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, third floor, Oakland, 94612; 911 and 510-444-1616 for emergencies; 510-238-3856 for non-emergencies.

Piedmont Fire Department, 120 Vista Ave., Piedmont, 94611; 911 or 510-420-3000 for emergencies; 510-420-3030 for non-emergencies.

Parks and recreation

Oakland Life Enrichment, 150 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, fourth floor, Oakland, 94612; 510-238-3247.

Oakland Parks and Recreation, 1520 Lakeside Drive, Oakland, 94610; 510-238-7275.

Dimond Recreation Center, 3860 Hanly Road, Oakland, 94602; 510-482-7831.

F.M. Smith Recreation Center, 1969 Park Blvd., Oakland, 94606; 510-238-7742.

Golden Gate Recreation Center, 1075 62nd St., Oakland, 94609; 510-597-5032.

Joaquin Miller Community Center, 3594 Sanborn Drive, Oakland, 94602; 510-482-7870.

Montclair Recreation Center, 6200 Moraga Ave., Oakland, 94611; 510-482-7812.

Redwood Heights Recreation Center, 3883 Aliso Ave., Oakland, 94619; 510-482-7827.

Rotary Nature Center, 553 Bellevue Ave., Oakland, 94610; 510-238-3739.

Studio One Arts Center, 365 45th Street, Oakland, 94609; 510-597-5027.

Piedmont Recreation Department, 358 Hillside Ave., Piedmont, 94611; 510-420-3070.

Police

Oakland Police Department, 455 Seventh St., Oakland, 94612; 911 and 510-777-3211 for emergencies; 510-777-3333 for non-emergencies.

Piedmont Police Department, 403 Highland Ave., Piedmont, 94611; 911 or 510-420-3000 for emergencies; 510-420-3010 for non-emergencies.

Oakland public schools

Oakland Unified School District, 1025 Second Ave., Oakland, 94606; 510-879-8582.

ELEMENTARY

Arts School (K-8), 5263 Broadway Terrace, Oakland, 94618; 510-879-1580.

Burckhalter, 3994 Burckhalter Ave.,

Oakland, 94605; 510-879-1050.

Chabot, 6886 Chabot Road, Oakland, 94618; 510-879-1060.

Crocker Highlands, 525 Midcrest Road, Oakland, 94610; 510-879-1110.

Glenview, 4215 La Cresta Ave., Oakland, 94602; 510-879-1190.

Grass Valley, 4720 Dunkirk Ave., Oakland, 94605; 510-879-1220.

Hillcrest (K-9), 30 Marguerite Drive, Oakland, 94618; 510-879-1270.

Kaiser (K-8), 25 South Hill Court, Oakland, 94618; 510-879-1710.

Lakeview, 746 Grand Ave., Oakland, 94610; 510-879-1300.

Laurel, 3750 Brown Ave., Oakland, 94619; 510-879-1310.

Lincoln, 225 11th St., Oakland, 94607; 510-879-1330.

Maxwell Park, 4730 Fleming Ave., Oakland, 94619; 510-879-1390.

Melrose, 1325 53rd Ave., Oakland, 94601; 510-879-1410.

Joaquin Miller, 5525 Ascot Drive, Oakland, 94611; 510-879-1420.

Montclair, 1757 Mountain Blvd., Oakland, 94611; 510-879-1430.

Carl B. Munck, 11900 Campus Drive, Oakland, 94619; 510-879-1680.

Peralta, 460 63rd Ave., Oakland, 94609; 510-879-1450.

Piedmont Avenue, 4314 Piedmont Ave., Oakland, 94611; 510-879-1460.

Redwood Heights, 4401 39th Ave., Oakland, 94619; 510-879-1480.

Santa Fe, 915 54th St., Oakland, 94608; 510-879-1500.

Sequoia, 3730 Lincoln Ave., Oakland, 94602; 510-879-1510.

John Swift (K-8), 4551 Steele St., Oakland, 94619; 510-879-1560.

Thornhill, 5880 Thornhill Drive, Oakland, 94611; 510-879-1570.

MIDDLE SCHOOLS

Bret Harte, 3700 Coolidge Ave., 94602; 510-879-2060.

Claremont, 5750 College Ave., 94618; 510-879-2010.

Montera, 5555 Ascot Drive, 94611; 510-879-2110.

HIGH SCHOOL

Skyline High School, 12250 Skyline Blvd., 94619; 510-879-3060.

Piedmont schools

Beach School, 100 Lake Ave., Piedmont, 94611; 510-594-2686.

Havens School, 1800 Oakland Ave., Piedmont, 94611; 510-594-2680.

Wildwood School, 301 Wildwood Ave.,

Piedmont, 94611; 510-594-

Millennium High School, 12250 Skyline Ave., Piedmont, 94611; 510-

Piedmont Middle School, 12250 Skyline Ave., Piedmont, 94611; 510-

Piedmont High School, 12250 Skyline Ave., Piedmont, 94611; 510-

Private schools

Bentley School, 1 Hiller Drive, Oakland, 94618; 510-843-2511.

Bishop O'Dowd High School, 3800 Stearns Ave., Oakland, 94608; 577-9100.

College Preparatory School, 3800 Broadway, Oakland, 94608; 0111.

Head-Royce School, 4315 Lakeside Ave., Oakland, 94602; 510-

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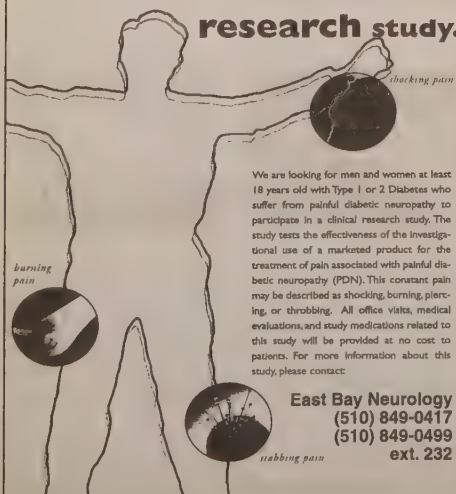
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OAKLAND HILLS: THE SCHOOLS



MILLENNIUM HIGH SCHOOL students, seen here during a presentation in May, praise the school for its individualized instruction, small class sizes and vast array of educational options.

Millennium High School gives students alternative

By Cindee de la Vara
TIMES STAFF WRITER

Piedmont High School is recognized as one of the country's best public high schools. But residents have another alternative to consider: Millennium High School. The school has two excellent programs for high school — a traditional and an alternative high school, said Millennium Principal John Yale.

The school was recently recognized and now offers the community an expanded program of learning proficiency levels and needs. It is open to some Piedmont residents on a limited basis; all prospective students must apply for acceptance.

"I really enjoy it here at Millennium, because the classes are small, and we get more one-on-one instruction," said Robert Meza, a junior at the school.

One of the major goals of Piedmont Unified School District is "to promote an environment that encourages greater opportunities and challenges for student growth by supporting teachers in the use of a variety of instructional approaches and settings," according to its strategic plan.

"Millennium offers my daughter Grace a style of learning that is more appealing to her," said Bill Mulvihill, father of senior Grace Mulvihill. "She was going to school out of state. This year, she is here."

INFORMATION

Call Millennium High School at 510-594-2878.

"I really enjoy it here at Millennium, because the classes are small, and we get more one-on-one instruction."

— Robert Meza,
a junior at the school

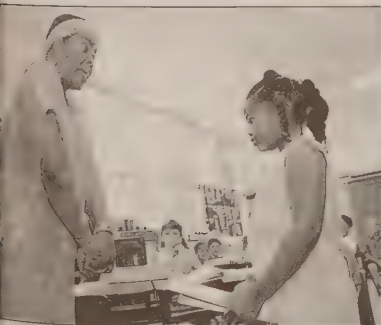
"I came to Millennium from Piedmont High this year, and I find there's good student-teacher relationships here, and it's more relaxed," said Ali Nieto, a sophomore.

One of the major goals of Piedmont Unified School District is "to promote an environment that encourages greater opportunities and challenges for student growth by supporting teachers in the use of a variety of instructional approaches and settings," according to its strategic plan.

"Millennium offers my daughter Grace a style of learning that is more appealing to her," said Bill Mulvihill, father of senior Grace Mulvihill. "She was going to school out of state. This year, she is here."

The school includes 65 students and 11 teachers and counselors. The school offers 28 different core courses, electives, and groups and tutorials.

See MILLENNIUM, Page 4



ERLY GOSHEY, a second-grader at Redwood Heights Elementary School in Oakland, gets a writing award from contest director Luisah Teish.

Committed staff, parents help make school work

By B. Roscoe
TIMES STAFF WRITER

Redwood Heights Elementary has seen major changes — outside and on the inside. After discovering that it sat on a lot more than 10 years ago, school officials had the building renovated. That process took time, students at the school in portable rooms on the playground. They used facilities at the nearby Redwood Recreation Center during recess and lunch. And they had to play in the center's field.

The temporary and comfortable renovated building now has a new exterior and rounded corners. The school consistently scores well on state tests. Principal Lynn Rodezno attributes that feat to the talented, dedicated staff and supportive parents who make Redwood Heights a central focus of the neighborhood. "It works the way it should work," says Rodezno.

The school, located right off Highway 13 at Redwood Road, has a diverse student population.

lation: Nearly half of its students are Caucasian; almost a quarter are African-American; Asian-Americans make up 14 percent of students; and Latino students 8 percent.

Redwood Heights' bright, roomy hallways display art and other projects that reflect this diversity, as well as the variety of school assignments and programs.

"It's interesting to see how easy art comes to the older kids now that they've had it consistently for a few years," Rodezno explained, pointing to the work of artist-in-residence Claudia Goodman-Hough, who's interacted with Redwood Heights students for several years.

Other programs accommodate students' social needs.

Help Us Grow Strong, or HUGS, is a state mental-health program that aims to shift social behavior that could limit some students' success. Students in the program spend roughly 30 minutes a week with professionals over 12 weeks.

The program has positively affected the mood of the whole school.

See REDWOOD, Page 4



STUDENTS at St. Paul's Episcopal Day School collect trash at Lake Merritt. The students contribute 7,000 hours of volunteer work a year.

Private schools teach more than 3 R's

By Suzanne Pardington
TIMES STAFF WRITER

Many families in the Oakland Hills have a desire for a top-notch education and can afford it, providing a ready supply of students to several flourishing private schools in the area.

Parents want small classes, specialized arts and music programs and challenging academics that many public schools can't afford to provide, and they are willing to pay \$13,000 to \$18,000 or more a year to get them.

Some parents send their children to public schools in the early grades and transfer them to private middle and high schools to put them on track for a top university. Some decide to spend more money on a private secondary education, instead of sending their children to a costly private college, because they know California has a strong public university system.

More parents are seeking a private education for their children at younger ages, private-school administrators say. At the heart of the decision for many parents is the poor reputation of Oakland's public schools. The latest problem, a deficit exceeding \$80 million and a likely takeover by the state, is not likely to help the public schools' case.

As it is, interest in private schools has gone up in recent years.

Applications to The College Preparatory School have risen about 5 percent to 7 percent each year over the past five years. The

"St. Paul's students are encouraged to look around the community in which they live and realize they are valuable parts of it, and everyone around them is a valuable part of it."

— Jerry Metzker,
spokesman for the school

school receives about 350 applications for 80 spots in the freshman class.

About two decades ago, about 40 percent to 50 percent of students came to the private high school from public schools. Now only about 10 percent to 15 percent do.

"I do think it's likely Oakland schools are underappreciated," said Murray Cohen, head of the school. "I know there are excellent things happening in Oakland schools. ... That's not to say that there aren't a lot of problems and challenges there that are likely to become even greater, given the current economic problems."

Parents turn to The College Preparatory School because they want an education that engages and stretches their children academically, Cohen said. The school has become more accessible to families who couldn't



AS PART OF THEIR community service, students return benches to their proper spots near the Bandstand Beach area of the lake.

normally afford it by doubling the amount of financial aid available over the past four years. Now, 22 percent of students receive aid.

At St. Paul's Episcopal Day School near Lake Merritt, about half the students live in the Oakland Hills. Applications have gone up 15 percent over the last five years.

The K-8 school was founded in 1975 by hills residents who attended St. Paul's church. They wanted the best of a private and public education, high-quality academics coupled with a diverse student body and community service.

The school has stayed true to that mission over the years. St. Paul's students now contribute 7,000 hours of volunteer work to the city during the school year.

They don wading boots to clean Lake Merritt, conduct a mi-

gratory bird census on the lake, visit senior centers, make and deliver lunches to a homeless shelter and help out in public schools, among other community projects.

The school recruits heavily in poor communities, and about one-third of students receive tuition assistance. Students often visit the nearby Oakland Museum of California and the main branch of the public library and take BART to San Francisco.

Many parents choose the school because they want their children to be exposed to the city and not be afraid of it, said Jerry Metzker, a spokesman for the school.

"St. Paul's students are encouraged to look around the community in which they live and realize they are valuable parts of it, and everyone around them is a valuable part of it," he said.

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OAKLAND HILLS: A MAP OF ITS HEART

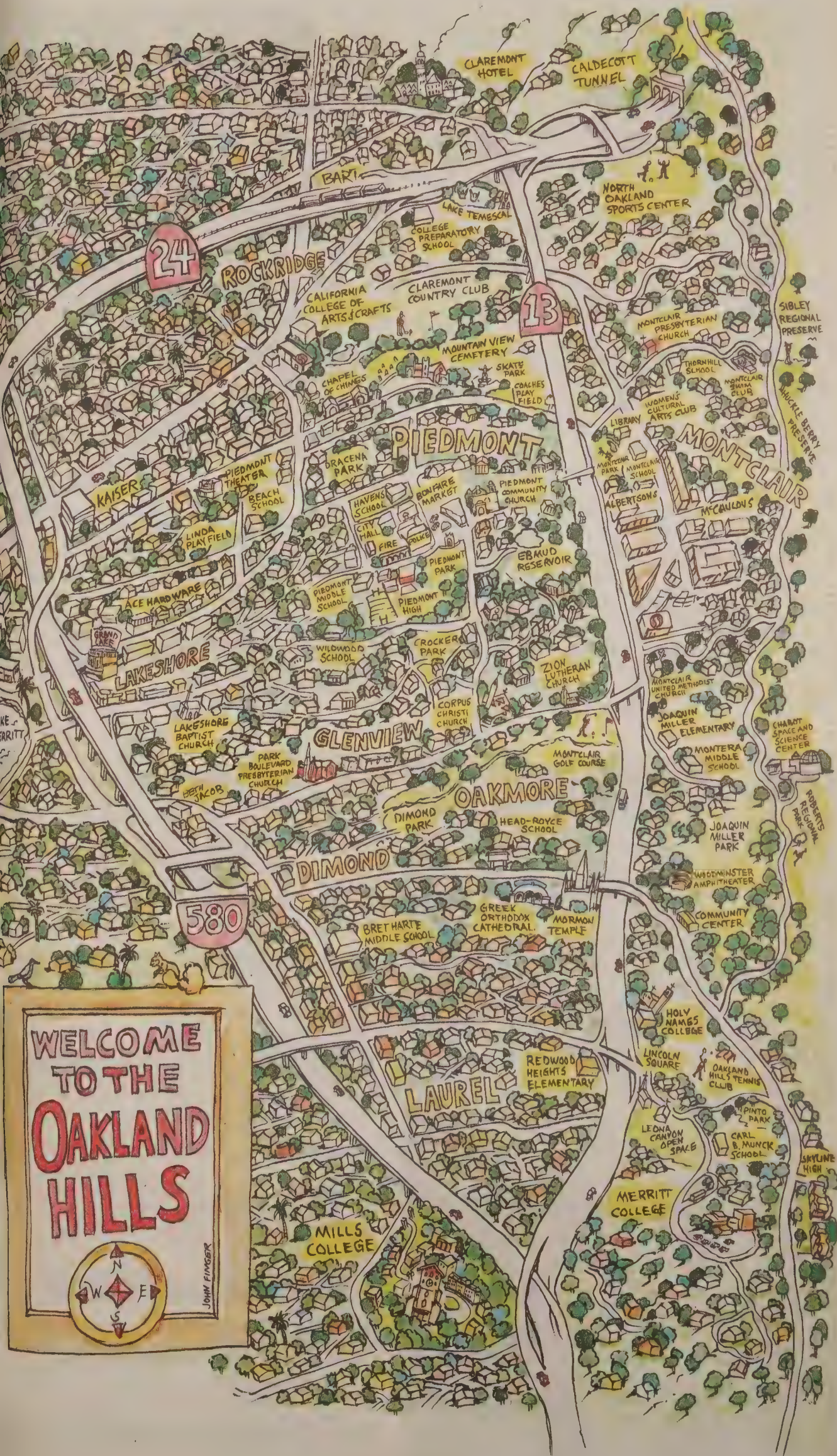


Illustration by John Finger

OAKLAND HILLS: THE ECONOMY

High-end hamlet tries to attract more outside shoppers

By Jessica Guynn
TIMES STAFF WRITER

Percy the Pug suns in front of Montclair Antiques, a price tag on his collar reading "Go Raiders!" On La Salle Avenue at the ethnic gift store What the Traveller Saw, Tara, owner Michael Silverman's Bernese mountain dog, lolls on colorful rugs, rolling over for customers to scratch her belly.

Sweet-and-sour-toothed expectant mothers can munch on a free pickle with an ice cream order at Mountain Boulevard's teeny Montclair Malt Shop, where owner Maurine Marie satisfies a craving for "a step back in time" with an eclectic collection of sock monkeys, rubber chickens, wax lips, old-time licorice and Pez.

At LaSalle Cigars, the pungent aroma of stogies drifts from the walk-in humidifier into the Habana Room, where customers linger over beer, banter and butts.

Dogs and kids are welcome at interior design and home furnishings store PsHome/Sanderson Design, which takes personal service to the hilt, even waiting for deliveries so customers don't have to.

These are the small-town charms to be found in what residents affectionately call Montclair Village. Nestled at the crux of an affluent, verdant canyon shaded by oak, eucalyptus, pine and cypress trees, Montclair, chock-full of old-fashioned storefronts, is part of a thriving retail triumvirate that includes the bustling Piedmont Avenue and Rockridge shopping districts of the bucolic north Oakland hills.

The high-end shopping hamlet, which slopes over five square blocks, blends old and new — longtime shopkeepers alongside arrivistes, boutiques alongside chain stores.

Once a rural retreat for San Franciscans, Montclair got its moniker in 1920 when real estate developers held a contest to market the township.

The Great Depression and World War II stalled the proliferation of storefronts, but the 1950s spurred growth as the hillside's Craftsman bungalows, shingled cottages, Prairie and ranch-style houses were filled by people drawn by the lush, winding roads and clement weather,

"We are trying to make Montclair more of a destination. Some of the Montclair residents want to keep it for themselves. For businesses such as mine and other businesses here, it's important for us to draw from a greater trading area."

— Jeanette Patterson, owner of PsHome/Sanderson Design

recalled Ron Hamilton, a 70-year-old retired surveyor born next door to the old fire station.

Though many of the original shopkeepers have retired, several remain.

Since 1962, Dr. William Sullivan has dispensed medicine and advice to three generations of Montclairians at Sullivan's Montclair Pharmacy.

"It's nice to be a part of people's lives, and relate to them not just by providing pharmacy services but also by being a part of their lives and history," Sullivan said.

For four decades, the Sarber family has run a camera store in the village. Tom Brodehl has the second-oldest business under the same ownership in Montclair, an art framing shop celebrating its 30th birthday. Tom Revelli, another Montclair fixture, has worked at Montclair Sports since he was in high school.

He bought the sporting-goods store in 1977, 20 years after it opened its doors.

During the 1980s, as some of the traditional businesses began to disappear, Montclair began to cross the line from small-town quaint to small-town gentrified. The median income in Montclair is \$79,085. The median value of owner-occupied property is \$500,000.

"It's hard to beat Montclair when it comes to ... demographics," said Silverman, former president of the Montclair Business Association. Money magazine listed Montclair as one of the best places to live in the country.

Though the area was spared by the 1991 firestorm, the disaster's fallout took a temporary toll on Montclair shops, prompting businesses to shell out \$12,000 for a three-month retail study. The current economic downturn has depressed sales as well, but Montclair still ranks as one of the most active shopping districts in Oakland.

Montclair generated more sales tax revenue per business in 2001 than College Avenue and Piedmont, and it's thriving enough to support a Peet's Coffee & Tea, a Starbucks and a Royal Ground Coffee all within a few steps of each other.

Now Montclair, which caters mostly to residents, wants to extend its reach and draw shoppers who might otherwise head for Walnut Creek or San Francisco.

"We are trying to make Montclair more of a destination," said Jeanette Patterson, who owns PsHome/Sanderson Design.

"Some of the Montclair residents want to keep it for themselves. For businesses such as mine and other businesses here, it's important for us to draw from a greater trading area."

Such ambitions come with tradeoffs. Montclair is no longer the tableau of rustic serenity that it once was. Sport utility vehicles topped with ski racks and Gucciladen Mercedes sedans jockey for parking spaces as traffic crawls through crowded streets.

Gone is the leisurely pace when townspeople lingered over coffee and conversation at the soda fountain at Sullivan's pharmacy. Sullivan remembers that decades ago there were no parking meters and there was always a parking space available. "Today it's all high-pressure and people on the go," he said.

"Fights break out over parking spaces. People who live in the community have changed. People used to be more laid back and relaxed."

Jessica Guynn is a Times staff writer. Reach her at 925-952-2671 or jguynn@cctimes.com.



SINCE 1962, Dr. William Sullivan has dispensed prescriptions at Sullivan's Montclair Pharmacy, and other shops lend a small-town feel to an area that has become busier as it has become more affluent.

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OAKLAND HILLS: HISTORY



WORCESTER HOUSE, at left as it looks today, was built in 1877 and is Piedmont's oldest surviving home. The Wetmore house, above right as it looks today, was built in 1878.



Three residences from the 1800s still grace Piedmont



HUGH CRAIG, the first mayor of Piedmont (1907-1914), his house, seen below in 1887, on what is now Craig Avenue. It was moved to 55 Craig Ave., where it sits today, above.



By Cindee de la Vara
STAFF WRITER

Piedmont has many special residences, but only a few can boast being among the oldest.

The 1878 Wetmore house at 342 Bonita Ave., the 1879 Hugh Craig house at 55 Craig Ave. and the 1877 Worcester house at 575 Blair Ave. are the city's oldest surviving residences, says the Piedmont Historical Society.

"There were older houses, but they've been torn down," said Gail Lombardi, recording secretary of the historical society.

The group has a history room in the Piedmont Recreation Center on Hillside Avenue.

Piedmont Historical Society member Alice Erskine bought her home on Bonita in 1942.

"It was built in 1878, and we made no changes to the outside," said Erskine, who raised her three children in the house built by Jesse Wetmore, a successful real estate broker.

"It had no bathroom, so we added that and a laundry, and we updated the kitchen. Where there was a trap door and ladder, we made a shower and put in a staircase."

Wetmore built an identical house at the corner of Bonita and Magnolia avenues as a wedding

PIEDMONT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The group's collection of memorabilia, housed in the June Rutledge Memorial Room of the Piedmont Recreation Department, is open to the public from 2 to 4 p.m. the second Wednesday and fourth Friday of each month.

For more information call the society at 510-420-3070.

gift to his daughter Blanche, Erskine said. That building now houses Piedmont's Christian Science Church.

The Italianate house at 55 Craig was built in 1879 on six acres on Vernal Avenue that Hugh Craig, the first mayor of Piedmont (1907-1914), bought from the Piedmont Land Company.

Early maps show that it was built on what is now the middle of Craig Avenue.

Hugh and Inez Craig raised six children in the home, which was moved down the street in 1912 to subdivide the property. Many rear rooms were demolished in the move.

"A great deal of credit can be given to these homeowners, who

take such good care of their homes," Lombardi said.

The historic house on Blair Avenue began as a small cottage built by Joseph Worcester in 1877.

It now has the distinction of being the oldest house in Piedmont. Jack London lived in the

spacious bungalow for a time while he wrote "Call of the Wild," published in 1903.

The historical society owns a sketch done by the late June Rutledge of the original, small cottage.

"It was remodeled in and out," Lombardi said.

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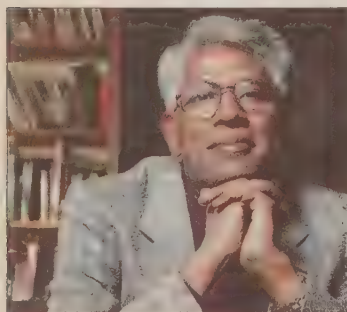


Name: Judith Offer
Age: 60

Community service: Volunteered in the Oakland public schools for more than 12 years, working with children to put on plays; docent at the Oakland Museum of California's art section from 1985 to 1992; worked at Bookmark, the store run by Friends of the Oakland Public Library, for the past two years; member of the Cultural Affairs Commission, 1996-1998.

Proudest civic achievement: Producing three of her own plays in Oakland. "It is a tremendous contribution to the city, because Oakland has virtually no drama (productions) and the city government is not doing anything about it. I am making some contribution to keeping the art form alive. Theater gives people the chance to look at themselves."

Biggest challenge facing the community: "The Oakland hills and Piedmont will (be affected by) the same problem that the city of Oakland has: The school system is in such terrible condition. Having bad schools has an enormous long-term effect on the city. When people are ignorant, they don't use public services well. Ignorance is really bad for the whole city. Everybody has to live with that."



Name: Chuck Chakravartula
Age: 56

Occupation: Property manager/engineer

Community service: Piedmont Unified School District Board of Education member for the past seven years, including one year as president; member of the Piedmont Asian American Club since its inception some 15 years ago and past president; member, school district construction review task force, which recommended a supplemental bond to help pay for new school facilities; member various parent club boards and school district committees.

Proudest Civic Achievement: On the board of education, Chakravartula helped oversee the completion of a roughly \$30 million building and renovation project. The district added classrooms, high school and middle school science labs, multiuse classrooms and a middle school gym. It also upgraded heating systems, expanded computer labs, installed Internet wiring at all schools and renovated and expanded athletic fields. He also campaigned for two school parcel taxes.

Biggest challenge facing Piedmont: "The biggest challenge is for Piedmont to retain its small-town residential (character) and still be an attractive community to live in and work in."



Name: Ralph Marinelly
Age: 71

Occupation: Retired history teacher

Community service: Member of the Piedmont Historical Society's board of directors for nine years, including six as its president. "He knows the community and increased the society's membership," said Shirley Price, who serves as the historical society's vice president. "Ralph joined Piedmont Historical Society because he was interested in the community and in volunteering. After he took over as president, there was a big increase in membership." Member of the Wildwood School Dads' Club, serving as vice president and launching the club's annual Crab Feed fund-raiser. "My involvement in the community started right after we moved to Piedmont and has included programs, committees and commissions," said Marinelly, who in addition, has served as chairman of the Piedmont Park Commission and chairman of the Piedmont Recycling Committee.

Proudest civic moment: Marinelly worked to promote the Tree Memorial Program due to his devotion to the "healthy environment of love, friendship and commitment" he has found in Piedmont, he said. These characteristics were especially evident when their son Mark died of cancer at the age of 21, he said, and the family experienced an outpouring of love from Piedmont residents. Three trees were planted and thrive in memory of their son. "It is a happy plant that blooms in a healthy environment," Marinelly said.

Biggest challenge facing Piedmont: "To keep Piedmont and its neighborhoods safe and quiet so that it maintains its inviting small-town appeal."

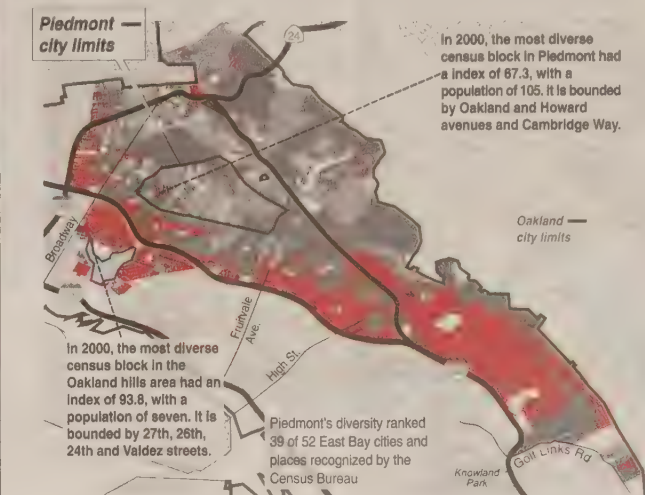
DIVERSITY, BY CENSUS BLOCK

Piedmont

In 2000, Piedmont had no census blocks of high diversity, and three blocks of moderate to high diversity, shown in orange.

Oakland hills area

In 2000, the Oakland hills and surrounding area had 18 census blocks of high diversity, shown in red, and 381 blocks of moderate to high diversity, shown in orange.



Most diverse
81 - 100
Moderate
61 - 80
41 - 60
Least diverse
21 - 40
0 - 20

Diversity Index, based on 2000 Census

The diversity index measures the probability that two people chosen randomly would be of a different race or ethnicity. The index has a scale of 0 to 100. The higher the number, the greater the diversity. Census blocks vary widely in

size. The census block boundaries are determined by visible features such as roads, railroad tracks, streams and invisible boundaries such as county or city limits. The blocks are usually small, but can be large in less populated areas.

The diversity color that appears for parks, schools, retail, undeveloped areas, etc., represents the residents who may live on the periphery of the same census block as those entities.

RACIAL AND ETHNIC PERCENT OF POPULATION

	White	Black	American Indian or Alaskan native	Asian	Hawaiian native or Pacific Islander	Latino	Other	Multiracial	Total
Piedmont									
1980	88.8	1.4	6.1 combined			3.0	0.7	na	10,498
1990	83.0	1.4	0.1	12.3 combined		3.2	0.0	na	10,602
2000	76.8	1.2	0.1	15.8	0.0	3.0	0.3	2.9	10,952
Oakland hills area									
1980	63.8	19.1	10.2 combined			5.3	1.3	na	141,130
1990	56.9	22.5	0.5	13.8 combined		6.2	0.2	na	149,612
2000	50.4	21.5	0.3	15.4	0.3	7.7	0.4	4.0	153,380

NOTE: Racial and ethnic percentages for each census are presented, but care should be taken in making census-to-census comparisons.

In 1980, individuals could make one choice when they described their race or ethnicity: white; black; American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut; Asian or Pacific Islander; or "other."

In 1990, individuals could also make

one choice: white; black; American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut; Asian or Pacific Islander; or "other."

In 2000, individuals could identify themselves as white; black; Asian; Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander; American Indian or Alaska Native; or "other," or they could select any combination of the six racial or ethnic categories.

Latino can be of any race, but for presentation purposes, we reflect non-Latinos of all races separately from those who selected Latino.

In other words, a person who is both black and Latino is counted as Latino.

People who reported themselves as multiracial in 2000 are not reflected in single-race classifications.

AGE, SEX, RELATIONSHIPS, HOUSING

Piedmont

	1980	% of pop.	1990	% of pop.	2000	% of pop.
Total population	10,498		10,602		10,952	
4 and younger	467	4.4%	726	6.8%	582	5.3%
5 to 9	679	6.5%	931	8.8%	861	8.0%
10 to 14	998	9.5%	751	7.1%	1,144	10.4%
15 to 19	902	8.6%	616	5.8%	911	8.3%
20 to 24	453	4.3%	389	3.7%	206	1.9%
25 to 34	1,183	11.3%	800	7.5%	525	4.8%
35 to 44	1,653	15.7%	2,203	20.8%	1,502	13.7%
45 to 54	1,412	13.5%	1,584	14.9%	2,477	22.6%
55 to 59	634	6.0%	545	5.1%	765	7.0%
60 to 64	541	5.2%	507	4.8%	478	4.4%
65 to 74	894	8.5%	870	8.2%	759	6.9%
75 to 84	541	5.2%	516	4.9%	526	4.8%
85 and over	141	1.3%	164	1.5%	196	1.8%
Median age	38.4	--	40.7	--	43.7	--
18 and over	7,731	73.6%	7,750	73.1%	7,639	69.7%
Females, 18 and over	4,165	39.7%	4,150	39.1%	4,068	37.1%
Males, 18 and over	3,566	33.9%	3,600	34.0%	3,571	32.6%
Females, 65 and over	894	8.5%	865	8.2%	791	7.2%
Males, 65 and over	682	6.5%	685	6.5%	690	6.3%
Total households	3,763	--	3,755	--	3,804	--
Average family size	3.08	--	3.14	--	3.18	--
Family households	3,051	81.1%	2,972	79.1%	3,105	81.6%
Nonfamily households	712	18.9%	783	20.9%	699	18.4%
Married couples w/ children	na	na	1,304	34.7%	1,544	40.6%
Unmarried partners*	na	na	75	0.7%	117	1.1%
Female head of households	na	na	146	3.9%	200	5.3%
Male head of households	na	na	37	1.0%	54	1.4%
Householders living alone	565	15.0%	596	15.9%	551	14.5%
Total housing units	3,837	--	3,848	--	3,859	--
Homeowners ¹	3,405	90.5%	3,398	90.5%	3,449	90.7%
Renters ¹	358	9.5%	357	9.5%	355	9.3%
Vacant housing units	73	1.9%	93	2.4%	55	1.4%
Homeowner vacancy rate	--	0.9	--	1.0%	--	0.2%
Rental vacancy rate	--	1.9	--	4.3%	--	2.5%

Percentages do not equal 100 due to rounding. *Percent of total household population

Oakland hills area

	1990	% of pop.	2000	% of pop.
Total population	149,612		153,380	
4 and younger	8,511	5.7%	7,867	5.1%
5 to 17	16,697	11.2%	17,256	11.3%
18 to 24	13,186	8.8%	11,113	7.2%
25 to 34	30,758	20.6%	30,344	19.8%
35 to 49	41,089	27.5%	40,739	26.6%
50 to 64	18,022	12.1%	26,801	17.5%
65 to 85	16,522	12.4%	16,130	10.5%
85 and over	2,827	1.9%	3,130	2.0%
Median age	na	--	na	--
123,958	82.9%	128,257	83.6%	
na	na	na	na	
na	na	na	na	
na	na	na	na	
na	na	na	na	
na	na	na	na	
70,434	--	77,545	--	
na	--	na	--	
34,071	48.4%	33,749	na	
36,363	51.6%	39,965	na	
na	na	9,391	na	
na	na	5,847	na	
na	na	3,580	na	
na	na	na	na	
na	na	na	na	
74,373	--	76,186	--	
32,340	na	34,113	na	
38,094	na	39,628	na	
3,939	5.3%	2,645	3.5%	
--	na	--	na	
--	na	--	na	

Because Oakland hills area is not a city some data is not available.

ECONOMY

Median home value
Median household income

Piedmont

	1980	1990	2000
Total retail businesses*	15	83	73

Piedmont

	1980	1990	2000
Not available			
		\$91,456	\$134,270
			\$760,000

Oakland hills area data unavailable

*Businesses whose transactions are subject to sales or use tax.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau; Association of Bay Area Governments; California Board of Equalization; Claritas, Inc.; DataQuick; ESRI

Geographical and statistical analysis by Lisa Vorderbruggen; graphics by Joel Martin/TIMES

Oakland hills area

	1980	1990	2000
Not available			
		\$295,359	\$48,365
			\$377,600
			\$76,649

Total employed residents and total jobs

Piedmont

	1980	1990	2000
4,705			
1,016			
5,241			
1,660			
5,116			
1,660			

Oakland hills area

	1980	1990	2000
Not available			
		50,241	
			51,368

MOVERS & SHAKERS



Name: Richard Spees
Age: 73

Community service: Oakland City Council member for 12 years; founding chairman and board member, Space and Science Center; board member, Pines Neighborhood Association; trustee, Bay Area Trade Center; foundation board member, Oakland ward; past president and board member, Summit Educational Institute; community advisor, Summit Medical Center; and member, Oakland Education Cabinet.

Proudest civic achievement: "Building the Space and Science Center, because I think it's a class facility that will really inspire a lot of kids. He was founding chairman of the center, which opened in 2000, and was a major force in arranging its future."

Biggest challenge facing Oakland: "I think it's the poverty issues, and developing the jobs that we need. We need to encourage a great deal of investment in Oakland, in the biosciences and the technology. The main way to do that is being very aggressive in business an attractive package of benefits, including the crime rate, and marketing our city position."



Name: Ray Gatchalian
Age: 56

Community Service: The Montclair resident and firefighter volunteers for Alameda County's fire department, visiting high schools and juvenile centers to inspire at-risk youths to believe they're more than what they are. Gatchalian, a documentary filmmaker, volunteers at Fremont High School's Media Arts program, a film production company, Pax Munro, shows his films to raise funds for "street kids" in Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand.

Proudest Civic Achievements: "I'm proud of being with young people and being able to get them to see other possibilities ... and to recognize that life is not always as tragic or how painful, they must see themselves responsible for creating their life and that they are surrounded by people who are willing to help them. Gatchalian helped launch the Oakland International Dragon Boat Racing Association in 1979 and to organize the first U.S. team to compete in dragon boat racing in Hong Kong. He also led "Heart of Peace" in Oakland, which volunteers carried a torch around Lake Merritt for an hour on the hour, 24 hours a day, for 31 days of peace and disarmament. He received the Peace Spirit of Peace Award from the California War Relocation Authority, a nonprofit grant-making organization, for his unwavering commitment to unity, peace, and the power of violence against youth." In 1997, the Oakland Fire Department named him firefighter of the year.

Biggest Challenge Facing Piedmont/Oakland Hills community: "Four years ago, 4,300 kids started in (in Oakland). Less than 1,500 are graduating high school the other 2,800 kids? If this is happening in Oakland, we are creating an insurmountable problem. The problem we are facing in our communities is not just homicide statistics, single women as head of household, motherhood, unemployment, domestic violence, drugs. "It is the dangerous belief or notion that we are people in our community that the problems are too complex or overwhelming for the individual to do anything about them. But the history of this community is replete with individuals who've overcome adversity."

Area's luminaries rest in uncommon memorial park

...g Coffey Mahoney
...king Domingo Ghi-
...Hall of Fame baseball
...Lombardi. Railroad
...Charles Crocker. Indus-
...J. Kaiser. Physician
...magnate Samuel
...video architects Bernard
...and Julia Morgan. Cal-
...George Pardee.
...famous figures, and
...many folk, are interred
...Mountain View Cemetery, one
...of the most historic bur-
...ials.

...between Oakland and
...the memorial park
...designed by renowned land-
...architect Frederick Law
...whose projects include
...Park, Central Park,
...Valley and the Stanford
...grounds. It has sweep-
...of the Bay Area and
...an eclectic mix of mau-
...soleums and monuments.
...the "Millionaire's Row,"
...of impressive mau-
...soleums and crypts in varying
...of the North Encin-
...cannonballs; and Elks
...are local Elks Lodge
...and their spouses are
...under simple headstones
...the statue of a watchful

...part of the cemetery,
...aid out a straight, tree-
...line. On the slopes of
...that skirt the avenue,
...acted curved lanes and
...evoke tributaries flow-
...ing much believed
...the natural topography
...to its best advantage,
...ed to some landscape
...s, whose approach
...been to interfere with
...ral topography," said
...View general manager
...man.

...you are on the main
...ave a very strong sense
...on and organization, but
...immediately when you
...the main axis you find
...in a much more con-
...state," he said. "That's
...feature of Mountain

...tion, Olmsted chose to
...most of the plots in the
...In a typical cemetery,
...are not necessarily ele-
...the roads or the path-
...Lindeman said. "By ele-
...brings a sense of
...to the plots and a
...separation from the
...the pathways."

...inated as a nonprofit
...in 1863 and dedicated
...later, Mountain View
...25 acres. The property
...a columbarium, mau-
...satorium and three

...are in the works for a
...moleum, said Lindeman.
...to break ground on it
...in six months," he said.
...facility, designed by the
...firm of Alexander Gor-
...nave a chapel and re-
...building.
...clergyman, the Rev.

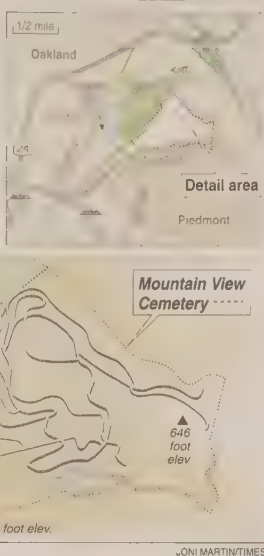


STEVE MASLANKA/TIMES

FLAGS AND FLOWERS decorate the grave of a veteran buried at Mountain View Cemetery, at the end of Piedmont Avenue in Oakland. Mountain View is one of the oldest remaining cemeteries in this area.

Mountain View Cemetery

One of the most historic cemeteries in the state — designed by landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted, who designed New York's Central Park and Stanford University campus — is located in Oakland. The cemetery, dedicated in 1865, is set on 225 acres with some of the best views in the East Bay.



JONI MARTINTIMES

I.H. Brayton, originally owned the cemetery property, Lindeman said. "He got together with the powers-that-be in the East Bay around that time, and they thought that the area needed a cemetery."

The movers and shakers formed the Mountain View Cemetery Association, and Samuel Merritt was selected its first president. Brayton sold the association the property for \$13,000, putting the proceeds toward Oakland's College of California, the precursor to UC Berkeley.

Olmsted envisioned Mountain View as a "democratic" cemetery — a place where people from all

religions and walks of life would be welcome, Lindeman said. For example, he created a "receiving vault," intended to temporarily store the embalmed remains of dead Chinese prior to their transport back to China for burial.

Today, nearly 170,000 people are interred at Mountain View Cemetery.

A living legend

Architecture students from Berkeley and the California College of Arts and Crafts frequent the cemetery to sketch its mon-

IF YOU GO

Mountain View Cemetery is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Docent-led tours begin at 10 a.m. on the second Saturday of each month and last approximately three hours. There are several tour options. To arrange for a private group tour at another time, call 510-658-2588. For more information, visit the Web site: www.mountainviewcemetery.org.

uments. Local residents regularly jog through, and children from a nearby preschool make a daily trek to the cemetery, said Mountain View office manager Doreen Herbruger.

"We allow and we encourage parklike uses, so long as they are respectful," said Lindeman.

Oakland residents Mark and Lisa Tortorich frequently walk their Australian shepherd, Dusty, in Mountain View. (Posted signs prohibit dogs in the park.)

Mark Tortorich, an architect, appreciates the monuments. "These stone castles represent craftsmanship that was in abundance less than 100 years ago, but is now lost forever. Something like the pioneering opportunities of California and the West in the early 1900s," he said.

"I discovered this community gem about four years ago while walking my dog with neighbors who were already familiar with its grace and significance," said Lisa Tortorich. "With each weekly journey to the cemetery, we now spend our walks exploring the distinct features of this unique environment."

Docent-led tours of Mountain View Cemetery are very popular.

"This is California's most historic cemetery. There are more movers and shakers buried here than in any other cemetery in California, including Sacramento."

— Barbara Smith, head of the cemetery's docent program

especially among those who want to learn more about California history, said Barbara Smith, head of the cemetery's docent program.

"This is California's most historic cemetery," she said. "There are more movers and shakers buried here than in any other cemetery in California, including Sacramento."

Visitors are intrigued by the stories of those buried at Mountain View, said Smith. On tours, she points out the grave of Rossell O'Brien; the man who started the custom of removing one's hat for "The Star-Spangled Banner."

"He was an Irish immigrant who fought for the North in the Civil War," said Smith. "Then he settled in the state of Washington and ended up in Mountain View."

The grave of Anthony Chabot, who established the first water system in Oakland, is near that of Gov. Pardee, the father of the East Bay Municipal Utilities District.

There is an entire section for babies and young children, all of whom died in the early 1940s, "just before antibiotics became available," Smith said.

Smith said it's fun to watch

the reaction of visitors on tours. "People really get turned on by the history of the place," she said.

An architectural historian for the National Parks Service, Michael Crowe often teams with Smith to lead tours. Smith focuses on stories about the people buried in the cemetery, while Crowe talks about the monument designs and mourning symbols of the 19th century.

Mountain View is one of the oldest remaining original cemeteries in this area, said Crowe, since most San Francisco cemeteries were relocated to Colma.

"(Mountain View) is an original cemetery, with its original plan. It's a treasure trove of things you'd expect to find in a 19th-century cemetery, with very good examples of the types of monuments erected during the period," he said.

For example, an ivy design featured on a monument is a symbol of memory, said Crowe, while lilies are associated with purity and roses are a symbol of love. "A column cut off at the top is often used in conjunction with a marker for a man who died young — symbolizing tragedy or a life truncated," he said.

The Crocker family plot, featuring a towering mausoleum, is one of the most noticeable in the cemetery and offers a spectacular view of San Francisco. The mausoleum was designed by New York architect Arthur Page Brown, who also designed the San Francisco Ferry building.

While Lindeman isn't certain how much the Crocker family spent on the lot and mausoleum, he estimated that it would cost about \$2 million to replicate it today.

The cemetery is not only historic, it is also contemporary and active. Single gravesites can be obtained from \$3,360 to \$8,800, said Lindeman; costlier family plots are available as well.

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Firestorm forged new, continuing community spirit

By Guy Ashley
TIMES STAFF WRITER

There's not much good to say about a fire that takes 25 human lives, destroys 2,770 houses and 485 apartments in Oakland, takes down 65 Berkeley homes, kills more than 5,000 animals and lays waste to neighborhoods long thought to be among the Bay Area's best places to live.

But the horrendous firestorm that swept across the Oakland and Berkeley hills Oct. 20, 1991, did force a monumental collaboration of residents bonded by the singular goal of seeing their neighborhoods reborn.

In short, the tragedy brought people together.

"The fire made me very aware that I really didn't know my neighbors before," said Oakland resident Anne Seasons, 61, whose home was destroyed.

"I know them now. I feel like I'm more a part of this community, rather than being someone who depended so much on my privacy that I didn't know many of the people living on my street."

Seasons is the president of the North Hills/Phoenix Association, a coalition of neighborhood groups formed after the fire.

For more than a decade, the association has provided residents a forum for venting the frustrations that come with rebuilding on scorched earth, from bad architects to contractors who run rampant over creeks and other cherished environmental features.

Hills residents displaced by the fire often found that groups could more effectively address the head-spinning array of issues and decisions inherent in rebuilding.

"There really is strength in numbers," said Bruce Black, a resident of Skyline Boulevard for the past 41 years.

Residents united, he said, to wrestle with insurance compa-

"I feel like I'm more a part of this community, rather than being someone who depended so much on my privacy that I didn't know many of the people living on my street."

— Anne Seasons, whose home was destroyed

nies. Many hills residents initially found their policies inadequate.

But as neighbor after neighbor complained about being left short, questions began to arise about whose responsibility it was to pay for rebuilding.

Residents banded together and demanded more. Many, like Black, later received settlements that paid for the complete replacement of their homes, including the contents and landscaping.

"My company just said, 'Let's rewrite your policy,'" Black said. Most of all, though, residents realized that keeping an eye out for each other was an integral part of becoming better prepared to deal with disasters.

"If you don't know your neighbors, then you probably aren't going to know which people might need help getting out should there be another fire," said Vicki Hammarstedt. Her home on Bristol Drive sits only a few blocks from the spot where the inferno began.

Like many groups in the hills, Hammarstedt's neighbors have developed an extensive disaster plan that maps what residents should do during a fire, earth-



"THE FIRE made me very aware that I really didn't know my neighbors before," said Anne Seasons of the North Hills/Phoenix Association.

quake, or some other natural disaster.

Seasons said that many of the characteristics that drew people to the Oakland hills — the quaint, narrow streets, dense foliage and seclusion — became curses when the fire roared across the ridges. The same was true of conditions in the hills at the time of a 1971 firestorm that claimed 37 homes near the Caldecott Tunnel.

"I think most people up here thought that if there was ever a problem, they would call 911 and the fire department would be here in the blink of an eye," Seasons said. "Nobody gave the slightest thought to the idea that the fire trucks wouldn't be able to get up here."

When the fire hit, fire trucks had limited access to many hills neighborhoods. Many firefight-

ers found that their hoses did not connect to fire hydrants in the area.

The city's emergency communications system overloaded in the frantic hours after the blaze erupted that Sunday morning, sparked by a small fire the day before that was not adequately snuffed.

"I think many of us realize that, should a major disaster strike again, we better be able to deal on our own for a while, because the emergency providers will be overwhelmed," Seasons said.

With this in mind, hills residents have collaborated with the Oakland Fire Department on a four-part disaster training program called CORE, or Citizens of Oakland Respond to Emergencies. The program teaches resi-

dents what supplies to have on hand and helps provide a database of residents, so neighbors will have a better chance of tracking those who may turn up missing.

An estimated 5,000 residents have completed the training.

Hammarstedt's neighbors have collaborated on a neighborhood communications system, a ham radio setup that can be used to contact emergency officials.

In addition, they have agreed on a place in the neighborhood to meet should another disaster strike. There, they can take a

tally of who is in the area

and who may need help.

The new-found cohesiveness has helped beyond disaster planning.

Neighbors who have now jointly met in the aftermath of other issues, focusing on better planning for better planning, urging the city to enforce environmental as Oakland's creek ordinance.

"It definitely pays for your neighborhood," Hammarstedt said.

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Memories of '91 fire still burn

By Guy Ashley
TIMES STAFF WRITER

When the warm winds blow on dry late-summer days, fire is on the minds of the Oakland hills residents who remember the deadly 1991 inferno that decimated many neighborhoods.

Nearly a dozen years have passed since 25 people lost their lives and several thousand people lost their homes to an errant spark and dry west winds that combined to wreak unfathomable destruction.

But changes have come to the hills, from the modernization of thousands of fire hydrants to the undergrounding of power lines and access to images from a heat-seeking helicopter. These measures bring a measure of security to residents and fire officials when the winds of late summer blow.

There is, in addition, a guarded attitude, a recognition that grew after the '91 blaze, that it only takes one thoughtless act to create chaos.

"For the people who lived up here before the fire, fire safety is a huge consideration," said Anne Seasons, who lost her home in the firestorm. "I remember a year or two after I moved back, I saw someone standing out on a balcony smoking a cigarette and I thought I was going to have apoplexy."

Fortunately for hills residents, plenty of fire-prevention projects have absorbed some of that anxious energy over the past 11½ years.

Perhaps the biggest was the campaign to build a fire station

"The city is very aggressive about fire prevention. A decade ago, I think they probably would have met a lot of resistance. Now, though, I think most residents see it as a necessary thing."

— Bruce Black,
Skyline Boulevard resident

in the hills. Station No. 7 was built on Amato Avenue, only a few blocks from Seasons' home, but its opening in 1999 did not fully satisfy residents' desire for better fire protection.

Initially, the new station was meant to be open only on days of high fire danger. Concerned residents, though, persuaded the fire department to keep the station open through the dry months of summer and fall. Keeping firefighters there could shave crucial minutes off the response to another fire, they argued.

In addition, hills residents have responded en masse to the fire department's disaster training program. Known as CORE (Citizens of Oakland Respond to Emergencies), the 10-hour training program teaches residents to reduce fire and other safety risks, take steps to become more self-reliant should disaster strike and

help each other in times of emergency.

"We work constantly to try to strengthen our relationships with residents in the hills," said Battalion Chief James Williams of the Oakland Fire Department. "It's all in the name of fire safety. I think we've had some good results."

Though they seek an atmosphere of voluntary cooperation, Oakland officials can wield a big stick if residents fail to trim overgrown brush or reduce other fire safety risks.

Teams of firefighters scour hills neighborhoods every spring to assess areas that could be trouble in dry weather.

Fire prevention officers make follow-up visits to persuade property owners to take action.

Where trouble lingers, fire officials have been known to take action themselves by dealing with the dangers and billing the property owners for their work. Unpaid bills result in liens on properties.

A five-alarm blaze that burned some 15 acres of the hills in September began with a spark ignited by a private work crew clearing hillside vegetation near the Oak Knoll Naval Hospital. The property owner was cited by the fire department just weeks before the fire for failure to clear the land.

"The city is very aggressive about fire prevention," said Bruce Black, a 41-year Skyline Boulevard resident. "A decade ago, I

think they probably would have met a lot of resistance. Now, though, I think most residents see it as a necessary thing."

The city has replaced dozens of fire hydrants in the hills, due to problems firefighters encountered on that fateful day in 1991.

Downed power lines created pumping problems, reducing water pressure to little more than a trickle. Without water, firefighters were nearly helpless as a blizzard of ash and embers swept the area. Flames scaled brush-choked hillsides so quickly that firefighters couldn't fight the flames.

The city has outlawed wood-shake roofs, which ignited like matches in the firestorm.

Many narrow roads that fire trucks couldn't navigate have been widened, and power lines fried by flames have been moved underground.

A thermal-imaging camera on a city police helicopter now provides aerial pictures to alert firefighters to remaining hot spots before they leave an incident.

That's because the fire Oct. 20, 1991, was sparked by a blaze the day before that was not adequately snuffed.

"We appreciate how hard the residents of the hills have worked over the past decade to reduce the risks," said Williams. But he stopped well short of saying all risks have been averted.

"You just never know what's going to happen," he said.

persuaded the fire department to keep the Oakland Station No. 7 open through summer and fall, arguing that firefighters there could shave key minutes off response time.

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Piedmont

FROM PAGE 1

Piedmont likely would have become a part of Oakland if not for the quick action of some of the city's earliest residents.

In January 1907, Hugh Craig and James Ballentine filed papers with California to incorporate a city they called Piedmont, meaning "foot of the hills" in French.

This move came as Oakland was planning to annex the unincorporated, 1.8-square-mile Piedmont area in hopes of boosting the city's tax rolls. At the time, Oakland needed help supporting San Francisco earthquake refugees.

In 1907, Piedmont was home to about 100 families. Today, the city's population is nearly 11,000.

Piedmont is an affluent community. In 2000, the city's mean household income was \$183,781 — 154 percent higher than the Alameda County average.

Within the Bay Area, Piedmont is seen as a very desirable place to live. But with the median value of a Piedmont home approaching \$800,000, it's not affordable for many would-be residents.

Piedmont's historic architecture comes in a varied range of styles, says city planner Kate Black. "Most homes are architect-designed," she said. "There are no cookie-cutter neighborhoods in Piedmont."

And Piedmonters work hard to maintain and improve their homes, said Black. "Piedmont has had a very sophisticated population that has wanted to make changes in keeping with the style of the homes and has had the financing to do it."

This care extends to landscaping. "When you drive through town you see homeowners or landscapers working on yards all the time," she said.

"People maintain their properties. It's clearly a very visually appealing community, and there are all sorts of other services that make it a nice place for people to raise their families," said Black.

The Piedmont Unified School District includes three elementary schools, one middle school and two high schools. The community also supports two private elementary schools affiliated with local churches and three cooperative preschools. In addition, the

city runs an adult school, which has served the broader community for more than 25 years.

The school district's 2,600 students are 20 percent Asian-American, 3 percent Latino, 3 percent African-American, and 74 percent Caucasian. On standardized tests, they consistently rank in the top quartile, and roughly 99 percent of graduating students continue their education at two- and four-year colleges.

A parcel tax gives some \$4.2 million a year to the schools, while the Piedmont Educational Foundation and other community groups spend more than \$1.3 million per year to enhance K-12 programs.

Schools Superintendent Gail Uilkema, who plans to retire this summer, was picked as the 2002 national superintendent of the year.

"As a parent, I believe my children (ages 11 and 15) benefit greatly from attending Piedmont schools," said June Monach, the school district's communications coordinator. "Over the course of their K-12 education, I expect that each of my children will come in contact with at least one or two exceptional teachers/mentors who challenge them to work beyond their perceived potential and share in the excitement of their personal achievements."

Her family moved to Piedmont about a dozen years ago mainly because of the schools' reputation, said Monach, who attended Palo Alto schools as a child. "My standards are pretty high," she said.

Piedmont boasts several beautiful parks — Main, Crocker, Dracena, Linda and Blair — and a few special play fields — Coaches, Hampton and Linda. The city is designated as a Tree City USA, meaning that it meets four standards established by the National Arbor Day Foundation and National Association of State Foresters.

Its many leafy, tree-lined streets are an important city trademark, said parks commission chairwoman Ann Rapson. The city spends about \$25,000 a year on street tree planting.

"There's an enormous amount of work and effort done by volunteer citizen groups, like the Piedmont Beautification Foundation, Main Park Task Force, Park Commission and Capital Im-

provement Projects Committee," said Rapson. "These groups really work hard to ensure that the quality of the parks is maintained."

It's that combination of extreme interest by the citizen groups and the effort by the city staff that makes things happen," said Rapson, pointing to Exedra Plaza's recent \$500,000 renovation. "There's a long history and commitment in Piedmont to the parks. We want them to be beautiful, safe and user-friendly for all ages."

There's also the Piedmont Recreation Department, which offers programs, activities and special events throughout the year. Though geared for Piedmonters, the programs are open to non-residents. Community favorites include the annual Fourth of July parade — featuring floats, bands and antique cars — and the Christmas tree-lighting ceremony.

Independence is the name of the game in Piedmont, with the city maintaining its own fire and police department.

"There is a high quality and level of service that Piedmont city councils have been proud of and have worked very hard to maintain," said city administrator Geoff Grote. "Piedmont has been a leader in high-quality services — admittedly on a small scale — for a long time."

Every four years since 1980, Piedmonters have overwhelmingly supported a tax to maintain the city's high level of municipal services, said Grote. The parcel tax supports police and fire services, sidewalk and park maintenance, and the refurbishment of public areas.

Piedmont is different from other cities in that there is no development potential, said Grote. "There's no series of tract houses going up and over the hills. Piedmont is completely surrounded by another city, and there is no undeveloped land. That's a very unusual thing in California."

It's a strength and a weakness, said the city administrator. "It frees us up to concentrate on the service aspect of government, but we don't have the revenue sources that other suburban cities have," he said.

Piedmonters do indeed pay their taxes — and they eagerly participate in civic affairs.

"The level and quality of civic involvement is extraordinarily high," Grote said. "It has enabled

It's my pleasure to share in the

THREE YEARS AGO, I got lucky on a house bid and moved from sprawling Los Angeles to scenic Montclair.

The bamboo groves on Skyline Boulevard surrounded me. The deer visited daily to eat my flowers. The rain turned the hills green, and flooded my basement.

Fortunately, the former Soviet nuclear physicist living next door knew how to set up a sump pump. His wife, a physician, watched my kids during the repair work.

When divorce hit, the African-American Realtor down the street, who taught law at the University of San Francisco, informed me of my legal rights and options.

I sold the house and settled a few miles down Skyline Boulevard in the Skyline Hills Apartments with my two boys.

The African-American and Korean neighbors laugh as the boys tear up the parking lot on their scooters. The African-American, Puerto Rican, Lebanese, Central American and Indian pool partners help them master water skills.

And I continue to use the Warren Freeway, aka Highway 13, as my main drag. Montclair, Roberts, Sibley, Leona Canyon, Lake Temescal and Piedmont parks serve as my points of refuge.

I'm amazed at the diversity of people living in the Oakland Hills and Piedmont, which is now 14 percent Asian-American. It's matched only by the wide array of talents these individuals share with the broader Bay Area community, the stunning beauty of our lush surroundings and the fun shops, restaurants and schools that abound.

The scenery keeps the residents as happy as the deer. For a break, I hike up Shepherd Canyon on a walking trail from Montclair Village. From Sky-

JANET LEVAUX
Montclair editor

line Boulevard, views of the Bay are plentiful. Cruising down Highland Avenue in Piedmont, I check out some Japanese-inspired buildings and gardens to soothe the nerves.

Sometimes, you find beauty where you least expect it. I stumbled around Sibley Regional Park one afternoon in the fog, only to bump into a friend I hadn't seen in a while. On a trail that starts out at Skyline Gate, I chanced upon a grove of cherry trees fully in bloom. Some days, snow tops Mount Diablo and the mountains behind it.

After a good hike, great local eateries offer a host of yummy treats. The dark chocolate with marshmallows at Le Bon Bon in Montclair Village is great, as are the milk shakes at Montclair Malt Shop.

For heartier fare, there's Crogan's Montclair, Gary's Grill & Bar, Toshi Sushi and Flipper's Gourmet Hamburgers, among many.

Piedmont and College avenues, of course, are fun stops for pizza, crepes, take-out Chinese and other fare. Fancy meals at Bay Wolf Restaurant, Citron, Garibaldi's on College, and Italian Colors Ristorante do the trick as well.

Some of my best memories are taking the kids to Taqueria Las Comadres on Mountain Boulevard, the Red Tractor Café on College and Cato's Ale House on Piedmont Ave. We've had great times at Piedmont's annual Harvest Fair and Halloween events at Children's Fairland at Lakeshore Park.

During the holidays, Piedmont Avenue's Dr. Comics and Mr. Games shop and Collectors Corner can't be beat for stocking stuffers. Montclair Toyhouse always comes through

with last-minute gifts. It's easy to find stores. Try Pen Books on College Edition and Montclair on La Salina. When it's time for scholarly work, I stop by colleges or adult mont College of Holy Names. You can study the Feldenkrais movement to dancing.

A fall concert at Mills featured Asian and African descent, Pamela and played elegant tapping her fingers. She's invested that rests on the gers. I'll never forget the presentation of the which she played sang.

This concert heels of a live out tation, broadcasted to the N of the area and Creek.

The musicians pants at these joy pushing the culture, just as nearby Chabot Space Center takes thrusting children into the

Think big. No your voice heard stars and out to stay grounded in nity, its schools, spiritual institutions groups and the

These are the ple in the Oakland Piedmont share other every day life I'm glad to

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ROCKRIDGE boasts a vibrant mix of shops and restaurants.

"We don't have sidewalks, we don't have a lot of signs, we don't have a lot of lights, so it gives it a nice rural feel."

— Dick Spees, retired
Oakland City Council member

ming pool at Roberts Regional Recreation Area.

Running along the spine of the hills is the 31-mile East Bay Skyline National Trail, which offers hiking, camping, horseback riding and awe-inspiring views.

"The view is certainly a significant amenity for many people in the hills," says John Sutter, an East Bay Regional Park District board member. One of Sutter's favorite activities is wandering along the stream trail in Redwood Regional Park. "You're walking through a canopy of redwoods," he says. "It's very beautiful."

"People travel for four hours to get to (Lake) Tahoe. To me, it feels like Tahoe," says Dick Spees, who recently retired from the Oakland City Council after representing much of the hills for 24 years.

A hills resident since 1959, Spees says the area reminds him of his native Oregon. "We don't have sidewalks, we don't have a lot of signs, we don't have a lot of lights, so it gives it a nice rural feel."

Longtime resident Saunders agrees, recalling hay rides and

bike trips she took as a child past chicken farms that dotted the landscape around Thornhill Boulevard in the 1920s.

In 1939, Saunders bought the lot where her home still stands, but the history of the area dates back to Oakland's incorporation in 1852.

A major early force was Colonel John Coffee "Jack" Hays, who came to Oakland in the 1850s after serving as a Texas Ranger and San Francisco's first sheriff, according to the Oakland Heritage Alliance.

In 1852, Hays built his home, which he named "Fernwood," along present-day Moraga Avenue near the present heart of Montclair. Unlike the land-grabbing early Oakland settlers associated with the city's first mayor, Horace Carpentier, Hays bought thousands of acres from Vicente Peralta, to whom the Mexican government had granted a land deed.

Hays had his finger in many pies. Along with hills settlers Horatio and Charles Livermore, he owned the land that eventually became Rockridge.

Sandstone and lava

The name Rockridge, the Oakland Heritage Alliance says, was coined by Horatio Livermore's wife. It came from a sandstone and lava formation in the area, the remnants of which can still be seen at the intersection of Bowling and Glenbrook drives in the Claremont Pines neighborhood.

The 1906 earthquake boosted Oakland's population, and a few



STEVE MASLANKA/TIMES

See OAKLAND, Page 14

RICK LOWE of Oakland enjoys Montclair Village with his daughter Ruby and dog Henry.

OAKLAND PIEDMONT AVENUE



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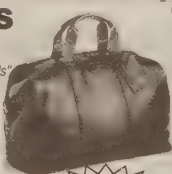
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In the beginning, clerks would pull items from the shelves at customer request. Dorothy Rickord, Piedmont resident and daughter of H. Sack, Herman's son who took over and ran the business until 1956, recalls the old store. "You just ask for it, and they bring it to you." Soon H. Sack established Piedmont Grocery Co. as one of the first self-service grocery stores in town. The company even offered a daily delivery service until 1965 - originally by horse drawn wagons then by a fleet of green trucks.

At just 16, an ambitious Charles Larson began his career at Piedmont Grocery Co. Charles worked his way up through the ranks - from delivery driver to buyer and store manager and eventually to general manager, president and owner.

"We haven't varied much from our original philosophy," says Charles Larson, now 97. "We have always been committed to offering the best service and finest foods to our customers." Charles is still chairman of the board and can be seen visiting with customers and checking in with his sons David, now president, and Neil who oversees weekly operations.



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Oakland

FROM PAGE 13

years later development in the hills took off.

New hills homes started springing up in the '20s, when lots were offered by Realty Syndicate, the Key Route transit system's real-estate arm. The new lots were only a few feet from the Oakland and Antioch Railroad, and bus service made traveling to nearby towns a breeze.

The commute from Montclair to San Francisco was just 44 minutes in 1925, the heritage alliance reports.

A great mix

While some weekend jaunts across the Bay can now be done in less time, many hills residents prefer to stay in town and walk to shops and restaurants in neighborhoods like Rockridge and Grand Lake.

"I like to be able to come home and park my car and walk everywhere," says Drake of Lakeshore. She points to the area's cafes, restaurants and coffee shops, where she can catch up with friends or simply people-watch.

Considering the sizable headache associated with traffic and parking in many hills commercial districts — it's a spectator sport to watch pedestrians and cars battle over access to Mountain Boulevard in the heart of Montclair Village — walking is often the easiest way to get around these parts of Oakland.

For some residents, it's the liberal bent of the area that's reason enough to call it home. City Councilwoman Jane Brunner, who has represented North Oakland for six years, came to the hills on her way to Mexico in the 1960s. She never left.

Rockridge has 43 active resident groups, Brunner says, and "not one neighborhood that is not organized and involved in what is happening in the community."

Of course, you can't live on pol-



AT MONTCLAIR PARK, Julie Peters Fenn and her three-year-old son, George, cross a set of stepping stones.

itics alone. For Brunner, the mix of the pastoral and urbane is a key hills attraction. She calls the area "an urban city that has houses with back yards. We get the benefit of suburban and urban life."

City issues

As in many urban areas, the public schools in the hills are a longstanding source of residents' discontent.

"It's a very nice place for a family to live if they can afford to do something about the schools," says Judith Offer, a playwright and 23-year Crocker Highlands resident. Offer ticks off several area highlights — Lake Merritt, pleasant weather, easy access to San Francisco — as to why she loves the hills, but she has one caveat — the schools.

When the public schools could not meet her oldest daughter's needs, Offer decided to put her into a private school. Many hills residents share that experience.

Many hills elementary and middle schools are exemplary, but the high schools suffer from weak test scores and less-than-solid academic performance.

The cost can be substantial for parents who choose private schools. Catholic grade schools start at about \$3,500 a year, with Catholic high schools charging

\$8,500 annually. Private secular high schools in the hills charge more than \$18,000 a year.

The only way the public schools can improve, some residents say, is if parents become involved in every stage of their children's education.

Drake's two children went all the way through Oakland public schools, as did she. "I'm very torn, because I feel if we abandon public schools, we abandon civil society," she says.

The growing presence of charter schools has given parents more choice, Drake adds, pointing out that other cities have school problems. "This is an urban problem. This is nothing unusual," she says.

Yet the Oakland Unified School District now has a budget deficit that tops \$80 million.

A state takeover is nearly certain.

Hills residents' other main complaint about the area is its high housing costs. As in much of the Bay Area, rapidly rising home prices have left residents wondering if their children will be able to enjoy and live in the area where they grew up.

The median home price in Rockridge in the second half of 2002 reached \$642,500, according to the Oakland Association of Realtors; in Montclair, it was \$610,000; and in Trestle Glen, \$485,000.

"It's much too expensive," says Councilwoman Brunner. "My children can't afford to live here."

Still, many residents who are less than happy with the area's high costs can spend hours describing how and why they love the hills. For many, the varied geographic and people make its famed neighborhoods the place to live.

"It's very interesting living in Oakland. You can go to any area and practically feel like you're in Mexico or China," says Offer.

"It was really important to us, especially when we decided to have kids, to live in a city that had diversity," says Emmy Fern, a Crocker Highlands resident since 1977.

Fern and her husband returned to the Oakland hills after living in San Francisco for five years. They "wanted a more neighborhood feeling." And that, they say, is just what they found.

Reach Matthew Leising at 510-339-4061 or mleising@cctimes.com.

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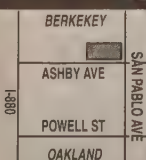
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Residents along both sides of Rose Avenue share a tale of two cities

Rick Jurgens
HILLS WRITER
into a leafy hillside,
of Rose Avenue be-
and Greenbank av-
the boundary be-
Piedmont and Oakland
like a refuge, un-
the upheavals that pe-
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ing, says one resident.
tful block to be on
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ing it as a rush-
oughfare," says Mike
his stretch of Rose Av-

"By living on Rose Avenue, I get to enjoy the close-knit community of Piedmont and really experience the diversity and warmth and excitement of Oakland."

— resident Dawn Margolin

"city of millionaires," but it began as a sewer district that incorporated in 1907 to avoid annexation by Oakland.

Evelyn Pattiani, daughter of one of Piedmont's early mayors, noted primarily in a 1982 history of the city that had Oakland's expansion "been permitted to include the group of Piedmont home sites where heretofore only County taxes were paid, the contributions to the larger municipality would have been considerable and the benefit to the smaller negligible."

These days Piedmont properties are generally worth more than comparable properties in the big city next door, according to Jeanine Weller, a broker with Pacific Union Real Estate in Oakland.

She says that as a rule of thumb, Piedmont properties cost \$100,000 more than similar properties in adjacent areas of Oakland: "Part is the schools; part is simply perception."

To pay for those schools, if not the perception, Piedmont property owners face higher property tax rates than their Oakland neighbors. Along Rose Avenue, the owner-occupant of one Piedmont house carried on the tax rolls at \$50,953 has a tax bill of \$2,209.06 this year, while the bill for the owner-occupant of a \$53,276 home across the street in Oakland is only \$1,004.40.

Most of the \$1,200 difference was accounted for by \$985 in Piedmont's special parcel taxes for schools, compared with the \$123 parcel tax for schools in Oakland. The inter-city rate

spread narrows among more highly assessed properties.

The neighborhoods around the Rose Avenue area typically attract young families or newlyweds who are "not quite ready for the suburbs but want yards and have been priced out of San Francisco," Weller says. They settle on the Oakland hills as "the most urbane of the choices" that remain, she says.

New residents shrug off the community's aging multiunit buildings and infrastructure and concerns about crime, Weller says.

Dawn Margolin, who lives on the Piedmont side of Rose Avenue, says her block is enriched by its city setting. While some within Piedmont exhibit an "obsession with getting away from Oakland's crime and Oakland's problems," she says, "by living on Rose Avenue, I get to enjoy the close-knit community of Piedmont and really experience the diversity and warmth and excitement of Oakland."

The big draw is the schools. After six years as renters in the Glenview district of Oakland, Clancy and his wife started thinking about moving "when our daughter couldn't pass the entrance examination for a private kindergarten," he says. "We looked at each other and said, 'Piedmont.'"

Clancy and other Piedmonters enjoy access to a small school district, with about 2,600 students, which has scored well in California standardized tests.

In 2002, 72 percent of Piedmont's second-graders posted advanced or proficient scores in language arts, compared to 23 percent in the Oakland system. The gap widened in the upper grades: 86 percent of Piedmont's high school juniors were ranked advanced or proficient, compared to only 18 percent in Oakland.

"Piedmont has some of the best schools in the state," Weller says. "The schools that kids who live across the street (in Oakland) go to are abysmal," she adds.

A spokesman for the Oakland School District did not respond to a request for comment.

Perhaps as a result, not many kids live across the street.

See AVENUE, Page 16

Oakland CITY CENTER

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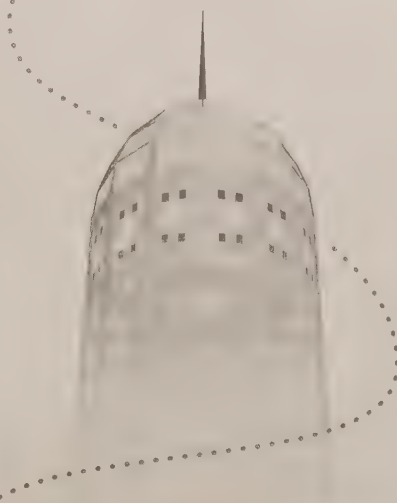
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Mayor's Proclamation

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WHEREAS, Dan West, the owner of Given Gold Jewelers, is a nationally renowned goldsmith and jewelry designer who is committed to helping improve the quality of life of Oaklanders; and

WHEREAS, Recognizing the importance of educating our youth, Mr. West and Given Gold Jewelers are donating to Piedmont Avenue Elementary School the profits from the sale of a diamond and emerald ring as well as 10% of its November profits; and

WHEREAS, Given Gold Jewelers' donation to Piedmont Avenue Elementary School enhances the school's ability to provide enrichment programs to its students and is an example of the important role business can play in improving our neighborhoods; and

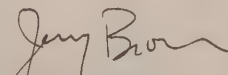
WHEREAS, It is my pleasure and honor to commend and thank Mr. West and Given Gold Jewelers for their commitment to the people of Oakland; now

THEREFORE, I, Jerry Brown, Mayor of the City of Oakland hereby declare Friday, November 15, 2002

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WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Office of the Mayor to be affixed.


JERRY BROWN
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Avenue

FROM PAGE 15

"When we moved to the block we were really disappointed that there weren't children on the other side," says Margolin, who moved to Rose Avenue 15 years ago when her family outgrew its 900-square-foot house in Berkeley.

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, only 24 of the 213 residents were under 18 years old in the two census blocks that include the Oakland side of Rose Avenue, while 45 of the 140 residents on the Piedmont side were under 18.

Both the Oakland and Piedmont sides of the neighborhood were predominantly — about 85 percent — white.

On both sides of the street, long-term owners enjoy lighter property tax burdens than their newcomer neighbors.

That's largely due to Proposition 13, the constitutional amendment that limits increases in assessments to 2 percent a year

"Piedmont has some of the best schools in the state. The schools that kids who live across the street (in Oakland) go to are abysmal."

— Realtor Jeanine Weller

and sets the property tax rate at 1 percent, excluding levies to repay voter-approved bond issues.

In effect, Proposition 13 shelters longtime owners from tax bills that would otherwise have skyrocketed as a result of the Bay Area's recent real estate boom.

One beneficiary is Eigenberg, a former Piedmont mayor who was elected to the City Council in 1978, the year Proposition 13 passed.

His 2,493-square-foot, two-unit building on the Oakland side of the street is the lowest-valued

property on the block, at \$35,352, with a current tax bill of \$1,034.46.

Across the street in Piedmont, a 2,506-square-foot house is valued at \$1.2 million, and its owner faces a tax bill of \$15,727.76. The difference? The Piedmont house was sold, and reassessed, in June 2001.

Eigenberg's Oakland property hasn't changed hands since Proposition 13 was passed, so that its assessment has crept up at no more than 2 percent annually over the past 25 years.

Eigenberg, whose platform called for reining in property tax assessments, says longtime owners whose properties are still valued at 1970 levels for taxation "haven't been getting a free ride."

"What we have now is a real fair system," Eigenberg says. "You at least know what is going to happen with your property assessment."

Another politician on the block gets the short end of the Proposition 13 stick. Perata, who has been mentioned as a potential Oakland mayoral candidate,

faces a current tax bill of \$6,438.20 on his 1,769-square-foot house, which is assessed at \$462,978.

That reflects a 1999 reassessment when Perata bought the house, for which the previous owners paid \$59,500 in 1976.

Perata has moved to a different house in Oakland, and is refurbishing the Rose Avenue house, according to a spokeswoman. The spokeswoman had no comment on Perata's plans for the house or his mayoral intentions.

The long-term appreciation of Perata's property is typical of houses in the neighborhood.

A four-bedroom, two-bath, 1,903-square-foot structure on the Oakland side of the street sold for \$627,500 in July 2000, more than triple the \$180,000 it commanded in September 1996. In 1985 the same house sold for \$98,500.

Rick Jurgens covers the housing, development and energy industries. Reach him at 925-943-8088 or at rjurgens@cc-times.com.

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TLE NAM TON/TIMES FILE 2002

BOATING: Julie An, left, and her sister, Jenny, paddle with other members of their Piedmont Dragon Boat team during practice on Oakland's Lake Merritt.

Lake Merritt: From marshy mess to Oakland jewel

By B. Roscoe

Residents have Lake Merritt for more years to help them overcome their inferiority complex to San Francisco and other cities. But their big ideas only produced a small lake in the city.

The heart-shaped body of water is just the San Antonio basin when the city in 1852.

Mayor Samuel Merritt proposed that the city dam the creek to create a lake. Resisted the plan, arguing the creek's brackish, odor-

ous waters were incompatible with recreation.

Like his modern counterparts, Merritt had a vision for the lake, and he financed most of the \$20,000 dam project at 12th Street with his own money. That created the only salt water lake within the confines of a U.S. city — still true today.

In 1870, Lake Merritt was officially declared a wildlife sanctuary, making it the oldest in the nation.

When Mayor Melvin Chapman proposed to the City Council that the city buy the lake from a railroad company in 1891, some residents and officials ob-

jected. The city's public works director made an impassioned anti-lake speech at the meeting — and then dropped dead from a heart attack.

Chapman, though, pushed through his agenda.

In August 1900, architect D.F. Oliver suggested that the lake be turned into a lagoon.

Subject to the tide's ebb and flow and the influx of sediment from storm waters, the lake needed costly dredging on a regular basis, as often as every 10 years, Oliver said.

Oliver wanted to use the lake's silt buildup to construct a network of shallow waterways,

surrounded by paths, footbridges and open spaces. In a letter to the Oakland Enquirer on Aug. 9, 1900, he wrote:

"Then suppose a system of walks and paths, meandering through the park and skirting the boatyard and lagoons, numerous footbridges spanning the water ways, dozens of small canoes filled with hundreds of happy children together with children's playgrounds, a music stand, and seats together with grass plots, fountains and shady nooks and you will have an idea of what the 'lagoon' park will be like — a



SUSAN TRIPP POLLARD/TIMES FILE 2002

THE LAKE offers a patch of serenity to Oaklanders. It's the only salt water lake within the confines of a U.S. city.

See LAKE, Page 18



JOANNA JHANDA/TIMES FILE 2002

TERS think the arts matter. In this adult class, Debbie Kern Shannon and Sylvia Eggert work on ceramics.

Enthusiastic parents support Piedmont's arts programs

Andee de la Vara

Piedmonters believe education through art is a way to learn, and they are willing to provide the time and financial support to ensure that art is an integral part of a school's curriculum.

It is important that art not be viewed as a luxury but as a necessary part of education because it provides a unique contribution to the human experience. Stanton, president of the Piedmont Arts in the Schools Foundation, a nonprofit organization that provides arts programs in Piedmont, said, "One gains skills and confidence that he or she cannot get in any other way."

The elementary school art education teacher said art education is present in the earliest stages of a child's education and

ONLINE

For more information about Piedmont Unified School District, visit www.piedmont.k12.ca.us.

experienced through high school. "Art helps to develop a child's motor skills, their emotional well-being and increases their knowledge," said Jorcino, an native of Argentina and a member of Piedmont's Model Arts Program Network, part of a statewide education program that evaluates the visual and performing arts activities in the schools. "It will give a child the opportunity to find out if art is their interest in life."

"Art education works both sides of the brain," said Piedmont High School art teacher Pat Macias, who also serves on Model

See ARTS, Page 18

The sky's the limit at Chabot science center

By Andrea Widener

TIMES STAFF WRITER

Everyone has a favorite planet. Just ask this class of second-graders eating lunch at the Chabot Space and Science Center.

"I think Mercury is fascinating," said Finn Wurtz, with the enthusiasm that can only be mustered by someone who describes his age as "7 and three-fourths."

"It's red and it's close to our planet," said Adam Gold, 7, of his favorite planet, Mars.

Luckily for these kids, there are few better ways to learn more about your favorite section of outer space than to visit the Chabot museum, nestled among tall trees and low-hanging clouds in the Oakland hills.

With a nearly new building, a newly appointed executive director, and a new 36-inch telescope on its way, Chabot center is working to turn itself into a world-class space museum.

"We just want to get everyone thinking about astronomy and the skies and thinking about the universe," explained marketing director Judyth Collin.

The new and improved museum has been open to the public since August 2000, and since then it has averaged 200,000 visitors a year.

It has created alliances with the Smithsonian Institution, NASA and the National Science Foundation, which help them create exhibits to wow kids and their parents.

Take, for instance, the movie that makes sense only with 3-D glasses or the computer-animated voyage to the planet of your choice or the exhibit narrated by



TUE NAM TON/TIMES

CHABOT SPACE and Science Center visitors can view planets through two telescopes already at the center, with a new 36-inch unit to be unveiled to the public in March.

vocal powerhouse James Earl Jones.

Or a hands-on exhibit that explains the forces that sculpt the solar system, such as dust storms, volcanoes or lightning.

"It's a good learning place," said volunteer Sharon Yale, on a break between showing kids how to land their own spacecraft on the moon.

Yale says the kids usually aren't wowed by the most historic exhibits, including a rare-book room, early astronaut gear and an honest-to-goodness moon rock.

A current exhibit talks about telescopes through history, in-

cluding pictures of the major California research sites and Einstein's own telescope, which he gave to his friend and accountant.

"They just like fast-action things, things where they can get out and do it," she said.

Chabot itself has a long history. It began in the 1880s, when the Oakland school district persuaded water engineer Anthony Chabot to donate money for a telescope.

Chabot later donated a second telescope and, on his death, endowed the center to keep it running.

Those telescopes, dubbed

Leah and Rachel, moved with the observatory to its current site and are a popular destination Friday and Saturday nights, when the center opens them to the public for free.

A new 36-inch telescope, which will be unveiled to the public in March, will be an even bigger attraction for those popular weekend outings. The telescope, named Nellie, will be the largest in the United States that is readily available to the public, Collin said.

The biggest draws for both kids and adults may be the

See CHABOT, Page 18

Chabot

FROM PAGE 17

Chabot center's 243-seat planetarium, which features a fiber-optic projector, and the 210-seat MegaDome Theater with an immense, semicircular screen that shows IMAX movies. On a clear day, though, the view alone would make it worth a visit.

Almost 50,000 children, like the planet-educated second-grade class from Oakland's Redwood Heights Elementary School, come on field trips to the center every year.

The children can explore the museum and take classes in

physics, environment, biology or astronomy. They can participate in a simulated blast off in the Challenger learning center or take in a movie or planetarium show.

These second graders, for instance, had just learned important things.

"We learned about weightlessness and what kind of food to take into space," said 8-year-old Bianca Navarro as she pushed her long hair from her lunch.

Next, they'd be off to the planetarium to learn even more.

Reach Andrea Widener at 925-847-2158 or awidener@cctimes.com.

CHABOT SPACE AND SCIENCE CENTER

10000 Skyline Blvd.

■ **Fall and winter hours:** 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday; 10 a.m.-7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday; noon-5 p.m. Sunday

■ **Planetarium and theater evening hours:** 7:30-9 p.m. Friday and Saturday

■ **Observatory hours:** Friday and Saturday, weather permitting, 7-10 p.m.

■ **Cost:** General admission is \$8, \$5.50 for youths and seniors. General admission plus one show in either the MegaDome Theater or Planetarium admission is \$14.75, \$11 for youths and seniors. General admission plus both shows is \$19.75 and \$15.50 for youths and seniors. General admission to either the Planetarium or the MegaDome Theater only is \$8.75 and \$6.50 for youths and seniors. The evening observatory is free.

■ **Directions:** Take the Joaquin Miller/Lincoln Avenue exit off of Highway 13 and follow the signs up the hill to the center. Parking is available for \$4 per car.

■ **Contact:** 510-336-7300, www.chabotspace.org

Lake

FROM PAGE 17

place where thousands of our population can go daily, winter or summer, and find no end of pleasure and comfort."

Forty years later, more plans for the lake were outlined in "A Proposed Lake Area Development." The unidentified author urged Oakland residents to understand what a source of pride the lake could be, potentially making the city as attractive to visitors as San Francisco and Los Angeles. "We must become 'lake-conscious,'" the writer said.

That lake consciousness didn't really manifest itself until 1990.

That's when a team of Northern California landscape architects and planners in the American Society of Landscape Architects put together 200 pages of development ideas for the lake and its environs. They recommended that the city draft a Lake Merritt master plan.

Thirteen years later, the master plan is set to become reality, financed by voters' recent approval of the nearly \$200 million bond Measure DD.

The plan includes a reworking of 12th Street, once a main thoroughfare to the city's business district but now an obstacle to more user-friendly, open park space, some residents say.

Improvements on 12th Street, as well as in and around the lake, could finally start to put a shine on Oakland's jewel.



SUSAN TRIPP POLLARO/TIMES FILE 2002

JOGGERS and boaters take advantage of the urban oasis that is Lake Merritt. Plans call for a reworking of 12th Street at the lake.

LAKE MERRITT'S 'ALMOSTS'

- A half-mile racetrack near the lake (1887)
- Two islands near the shoreline, connected to the park by artistic bridges (1906)
- A huge casino and boathouse featuring neoclassical details — fountains, domes, colonnades and Greek statues (1910)
- A central library at 14th and Oak streets, with a terrace extending to the water (1933)
- A swimming pool (from 1869 on)

'NECKLACE OF LIGHTS' HISTORY

■ **1913:** Native Sons and Daughters of California celebrate Admission Day by stringing electric lights around the lake. The result is so well-received that plans are made to make it permanent.

■ **1925:** Permanent light installation includes 3,400 lights strung between 192 Florentine posts.

■ **1941:** Blackouts after the bombing of Pearl Harbor darken the Necklace of Lights. The light posts were lighted again after World War II, but the string of lights between the posts was deemed too expensive to repair. It was sold to a West Oakland scrap dealer and later bought by Dr. Velva Brown, who took the string of lights and bulbs to China to light a mission.

■ **July 13, 1987:** The necklace is re-lighted, thanks to \$1.6 million raised by the Lake Merritt Breakfast Club.

■ **Today:** The colors of the lights are changed for special occasions. Rainbow-colored lights are put up for East Bay Pride activities; red, white and blue lights are strung to honor lives lost Sept. 11, 2001.



PIEDMONT HIGH SCHOOL art teacher Pat Macias says the district is lucky for the support its parents give to art education.

Arts

FROM PAGE 17

Arts Program Network team. "It teaches problem-solving and critical thinking. We are the luckiest district to have parents who are behind arts education."

"Piedmont is an incredible place, because it offers a lot for kids," said Irene Nelson, an artist and grants coordinator for PAINTS. "People here are family-oriented and very involved. Through the arts, we want to celebrate and accept differences. Kids learn differently, and there's no right way of doing things."

For the past two years, Piedmont High School students have made it to the national finals of several arts competitions. As part of one contest, a watercolor painted by Piedmont High School alumnus Adrienne Lei was included in a traveling show

sponsored by the Placement College.

Her painting — a field of more than 100 missions. It appeared weeks in 2002 at the Museum of Art, as well as in Denver, New York and Princeton, N.J. continues to study the sophomore more at Amherst in Amherst, Mass.

In addition to the education is an important Piedmont's extracurricular programs. Citizens High in Music Education, an organization of parents, funds and supports musical, vocal, dramatic programs for Piedmont in grades K-12. "Music is strong in Piedmont," said Nelson. "We have dance and really want to have our art education."

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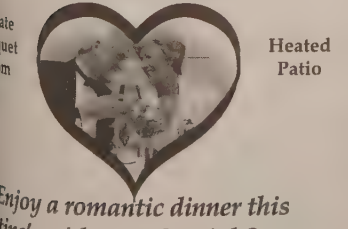
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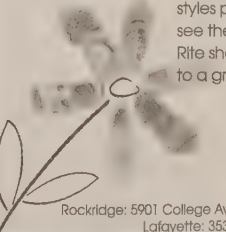
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OAKLAND HISTORY

■ **1820:** Luis Maria Peralta awarded a 44,800-acre land grant from the king of Spain.

■ **1842:** Don Peralta divided his land among his children. Most of Oakland lies within shares given to Antonio, Maria and Vicente.

■ **1851:** The first post office opened.

■ **1852:** Incorporated May 4th.

■ **1853:** The College School established. Later known as the College of California, predecessor to the University of California.

■ **1860:** En route from Sacramento to San Francisco, the Pony Express rides through Oakland. Population 1,543.

■ **1862:** Dr. Samuel Merritt donated 155 acres of dammed tidal water from the headwaters of Indian Slough. Known as "Merritt's Lake" and later Lake Merritt.

■ **1871:** Mills College moved to Oakland.

■ **1874:** First edition of the Oakland Daily Evening Tribune printed.

■ **1883:** Heinold's First and Last Chance Saloon opened. Remains in operation to the present. The bar was a favorite haunt of Jack London, who references the bar in his novel "John Barleycorn." Heinold's designated a National Literary Landmark in 1998 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2000.

■ **1886:** Joaquin Miller, distinguished poet, purchased a site in the Oakland hills, naming it "The Heights."

■ **1909:** Samuel Merritt College began as a hospital school of nursing named after Dr. Samuel Merritt.

■ **1910:** Population estimate 150,000.

■ **1914:** Oakland Civic Auditorium built. Designed by J.J. Donovan.

■ **1926:** Grand Lake Theater built.

■ **1927:** Oakland Municipal Airport built.

■ **1928:** Fox-Oakland Theater built.

■ **1931:** Paramount Theatre built. Designed by Timothy Pflueger in art deco style.

■ **1936:** The Oakland-San Francisco Bay Bridge construction completed.

■ **1937:** The Broadway low-level tunnel connecting Oakland with Contra

Costa County completed. Amelia Earhart's ill-fated trip around-the-world flight started from the Oakland Municipal Airport.

■ **1942:** The Permanente Foundation Hospital dedicated. First in the chain of Henry J. Kaiser's health plan hospitals.

■ **1950:** Population 384,575.

■ **1953:** The Oakland Board of Education organized the Oakland Junior College and developed Laney College and Merritt College as separate campuses. In 1964, Oakland Junior College is renamed the Peralta Community College District.

■ **1960:** The Oakland Raiders played in the upstart American Football League.

■ **1962:** Fukuoka, Japan, becomes Oakland's first sister city.

■ **1966:** Bobby Seale and Huey Newton organized the Black Panther Party for Self-Defense at Oakland City College. Oakland Coliseum built. Cost \$25.5 million.

■ **1968:** Major League Baseball came to Oakland when the Kansas City Athletics moved into the Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum. Renamed Oakland Athletics.

■ **1969:** Oakland Museum opened.

■ **1970:** Population 361,561.

■ **1971:** Golden State Warriors relocated to Oakland.

■ **1972:** BART construction completed. The Oakland A's win their first World Series.

■ **1973:** Paramount Theatre re-

opened after renovation. The Oakland A's win their second World Series.

■ **1974:** The Oakland A's make it three straight World Series victories.

■ **1975:** Nakhodka, Russia, and Sekondi Takoradi, Ghana, become Oakland's second and third sister cities. The Golden State Warriors win the NBA Championship.

■ **1977:** The Oakland Raiders win their first Super Bowl.

■ **1980:** Population 339,337.

■ **1981:** The Oakland Raiders win the Super Bowl.

■ **1982:** Oakland Raiders left Oakland for Los Angeles. Oakland enters into its fourth sister city agreement with Dalian, China.

■ **1984:** Robert C. Maynard acquired the Oakland Tribune. He owned the paper until 1992.

■ **1984:** After a \$15 million refurbishment, the Oakland Civic Auditorium is reborn as the Henry J. Kaiser Convention Center.

■ **1986:** Ocho Rios, Jamaica, becomes a sister city.

■ **1987:** Oakland welcomes Livorno, Italy, as its sixth sister city.

■ **1989:** The Loma Prieta earthquake hits the Bay Area. Collapsed the Cypress Freeway and destroyed over 1,000 homes in Oakland. 45 people died. The earthquake delayed the World Series. Concluded with an Oakland A's victory over the San Francisco Giants.

■ **1990:** Population 372,242.

■ **1991:** Wildfire burns through the Berkeley-Oakland Hills. Destroyed over 3,500 homes in Oakland. 25 people died.

■ **1995:** The Raiders returned to Oakland.

■ **1996:** Renovation of the Oakland Coliseum completed. Two 40,000-square-foot clubs, 22,000 seats, 125 luxury suites. Cost \$200 million. Renamed the Network Associates Coliseum in a 1998 naming rights deal.

■ **1997:** Renovation of the Oakland-Alameda County Arena completed. 72 luxury suites, 3,900 club seats, seating capacity for basketball games increased to 19,200. Cost \$121 million. Renamed the New Arena.

■ **1998:** Final phase of the Cypress replacement portion of the Nimitz Freeway completed. Cost \$1.2 billion.

■ **2000:** Santiago de Cuba is Oakland's seventh sister city. Population 399,484.

■ **2002:** State of California estimates put Oakland's population at over 404,000.

SOURCE: www.oaklandchamber.com. Compiled by the Oakland History Room of the Oakland Public Library. Community and Economic Development Agency

Yoga

FROM PAGE 19

on specific types of yoga that work well together. Hatha yoga, for instance, integrates the alignment emphasis of Iyengar yoga with the flowing dynamics of Vinyasa yoga.

These yoga types, ideally, are taught in groups of 10 to 15 students, Ciocho said. The smaller the class, the more teachers can give individual attention and make hands-on adjustments to students' poses.

The best thing about the busi-

ness so far is "becoming the Village," Kanwardt says. "Knowing people, forging partnerships with other businesses."

The biggest obstacle Kanwardt has had to overcome are the misconceptions people have about yoga.

"People think they're old or too stiff," he said. "Classes at Mountain Yoga help counter those stereotypes."

Janet Levaux and Tyler Pukatch contributed to this story.



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AN EVOLUTION IN HOME IMPROVEMENT

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Liquid Siding was originally developed as an exterior coating for coastal lighthouses. A test site at Port King, West Vancouver is used to measure the product's performance. The product carries a non-prorated 10-year transferable warranty, an increase from the original 5-year warranty because of the superior performance at the test site.

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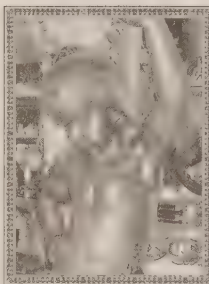
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What have you got to lose?

These clubs raise the bar for choice night-owl haunts

Matthew Leising
TIMES STAFF WRITER

"It feels like it's been the same forever. It feels like the trailer park my parents used to take us to for summer vacations."

— Alley regular Jerry Foster

"Every night is different. That's what's good about it," says Erin Alexander, who on a recent night was spinning tunes by New Order, the Clash, the Violent Femmes and the Cure.

Bartender Teilor Good describes Ruby Room patrons as "the Oakland hipster crowd," and points out that people look really good under the hazy red light.

Another big draw, locals say, are the nightly music hosts, who never fail to play it loud and play it proud. The lack of a cover charge is another big bonus.

"It's kind of like going into the city without going into the city," Good says. Ruby Room regulars ask: Why would you want to go to San Francisco when the best bar in the Bay Area is in Oakland?

The glitter-dusted ceilings and lava rocks behind the bar might

take you back to 1974. But don't be fooled; the Ruby Room is only 3½ years old. One in a wave of new faux-dives, it has been intentionally made to seem as though it has been around forever.

Just a stone's throw away at 435 13th St. is Radio, the Ruby Room's wealthier, upscale cousin. Owned by the same people, Radio uses red light and mirrors to accent rather than to obscure. But it is still dark and smaller than the Ruby Room, while not quite as smoky.

More martini than Pabst Blue Ribbon, Radio caters to the downtown crowd. Disc jockey Frankie Koeller says the crowd is genuine and describes the bar as "Cheers come to life."

For a more blue-collar, down-home ambience, try Connolly's at 4301 Telegraph Ave. The crowd is local, so don't mess with the Raiders or the A's.

And make sure to appreciate the oil painting of Sylvester Stallone as Rocky, which hangs prominently on one wall. Connolly's has been around for more than 40 years, and many of the regulars can tell you stories of its glory days — for a drink, of course.

Connolly's patrons smoke, the Budweisers are cheap — and tend to go with shots or highballs. Admire the vast collection of old Jim Beam and Ezra Brooks



OAKLAND'S RUBY ROOM on 14th Street caters to the twentysomething hipster crowd. "It's kind of like going into the city without going into the city," says bartender Teilor Good.

whiskey decanters along the wall behind the bar.

The jukebox rocks, as well. Don't be surprised to hear Iron Maiden followed by Tom Waits and Jimi Hendrix.

For some real, live impromptu entertainment, though, no bar in Oakland can beat the Alley at

3325 Grand Ave. This is a piano bar in every sense, so come ready to sing, or at least hum along, to the many torch songs sung by visitors and staff. Pianist Rod Dibble has been playing at the Alley for 43 years, and if there is a song he doesn't know, it means you're wrong.

"It's a great place to blow off steam. There's a great crowd of regulars," explains musician and sometimes-actor Ben Scott after belting out a fine rendition of "Too Marvelous for Words" by Johnny Mercer.

See BARS, Page 28

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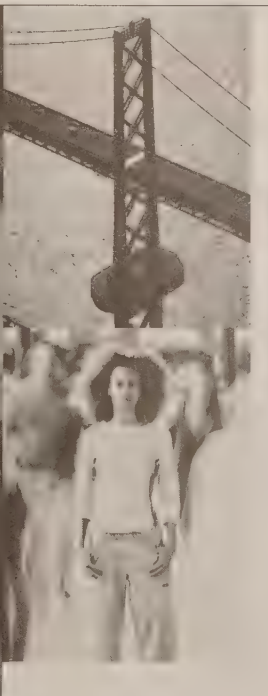
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On April 30 and May 1, 2003, Ygnacio Valley High School will be the host site for an important event being staged by members of our community. This program entitled Every 15 Minutes is an event designed to dramatically instill among teenagers the potentially dangerous consequences of drinking alcohol.

Department, John Muir Medical Center, the City of Concord, Contra Costa Crisis Center, CALSTAR, and AMR Ambulance Service

Your financial contribution (tax deductible) should be addressed to: Every 15 Minutes - Ygnacio Valley High School

Attention: Officer Jeff S. 755 Oak Grove Road, Concord, California 94601. For information call Officer Sherwin or Deputy Officer Kay Shirey at Valley High School extension 3616, or Mike Kelley at extension 3616.

Every 15 minutes someone in the United States is injured or killed in an alcohol-related incident. Often the victims are teenagers. By engaging junior and senior students in an interactive re-enactment of a drunk driving accident, this powerful program challenges and empowers these students to make mature decisions and to recognize that their individual actions impact other people. Parents from Ygnacio Valley High School are aggressively pursuing this dramatic activity to educate its students regarding the consequences of drinking and driving.

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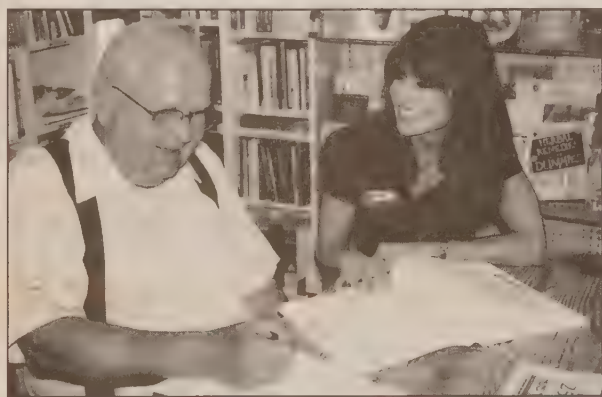
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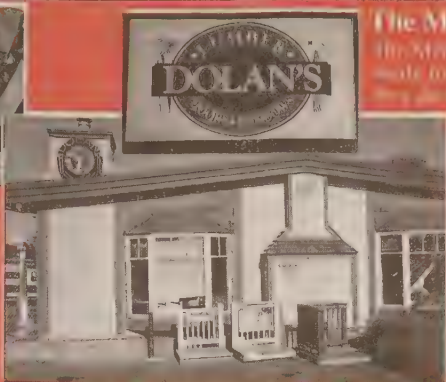
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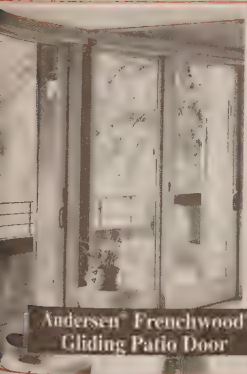


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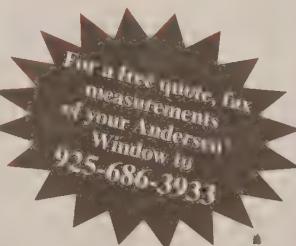
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Symphony's Morgan reaches out to future musicians

By Michal Lando
TIMES STAFF WRITER

Oakland's symphony has been to the bottom and back.

The group came to a screeching halt 17 years ago, and it took a dynamic director to turn it around.

Music director Michael Morgan's secrets? Capture Oakland's heart and soul. Give residents music that would inspire them to come back and listen.

"Oakland houses a passion in its midst, and Morgan has responded to it with the pulse of the community," said symphony executive director Jennifer Duston.

For nearly four decades, the Oakland symphony enjoyed steady growth and community support. But after the group's highest achievement, receiving a \$1.35 million grant from the Ford Foundation in 1966, its demise began.

The symphony planned to use the funds to transform itself from a regional orchestra into a "major" one. But it quickly outgrew itself, trying to do too much for its own good. It failed to make enough money from ticket sales and collapsed in a financial crisis in 1986.

The Oakland East Bay Symphony, relaunched by musicians and supporters in 1989, learned from its earlier mistakes.

No longer would it strive beyond its reach. With its mixture of musical genres, a strong focus on new music and local composers and, above all, an unwavering dedication to music education, Morgan has helped make the symphony a community organization in the truest sense of the word.

"Morgan's sensibility is in selecting new music that is accessible and appealing," Duston said.

From the start, the conductor, who trained at Oberlin College Conservatory, has been actively involved with schools in Oakland and Piedmont, visiting more than 50 schools a year. He helps lead the Music for Excellence program, which provides 1,900-plus hours of in-school training for student musicians at 18 Oakland

"There is more diversity here than anyplace else. If you like diversity in the programming, it is not so much a challenge as an opportunity."

— Michael Morgan

public schools.

"How many directors are doing this?" Duston asked. "Very few. How many communities are there where elementary school kids recognize the orchestra director? Education has really formed the cornerstone of the organization."

Tim Allen, instrumental music director at Skyline High School, said Morgan's contribution to music in the schools is unparalleled. Symphony musicians spend seven hours a week working with Skyline students in small ensembles, showing up at 7 a.m. for rehearsals.

"It's like a gift, a valuable and amazing gift," Allen said. "He has really made a decision to make Oakland his place and leave a big mark on music here."

Recently, Morgan contributed money from his own pocket to help Skyline get a new Yamaha piano as part of improvements being done to the school auditorium, spearheaded by Skyline alumnus Tom Hanks and others.

Some symphony directors may recognize that the future of classical music rests in coming generations, Duston said, but few are doing as much as Oakland's to make sure it survives.

"I certainly think that a number of orchestras do education programs that help young people to value this as an art form," she said. "But I think that for an orchestra of our size, we probably do more than others."

For Morgan, the commitment comes naturally. His own introduction to music was in the public schools.



OAKLAND SYMPHONY'S music director, Michael Morgan, visits more than 50 schools a year as part of the symphony's education program.

A native of Washington, D.C., Morgan first learned to play the piano at his elementary school. And Morgan is certain he would not be leading the symphony today if it weren't for the arts curriculum in the public schools.

"Education has been part of the orchestra's purpose from the beginning. It is just part of the job," he said. "If you want future audiences, you have to build (them) from young people."

When Morgan came to Oakland, people didn't know how long he would stay. Some thought Oakland might just be a stepping stone for him. But 13 years later, he is doing more than ever for the city.

Competition from the San Francisco Symphony poses no threat to Morgan, who knows where he stands and cherishes what Oakland has to offer.

"We do totally different things from the San Francisco Symphony," Duston said. "Every vibrant arts community is good for all arts organizations, and there is room for all of us. Most orchestras have their own niche that is not duplicated."

In the wider arts community, Morgan has a reputation for conducting world premieres every season. This season, the symphony premiered a cello concerto by San Francisco composer Jake Heggie and an "Afro-symphonic"

work by Omar Sosa, featuring the pianist and his Afro-Cuban jazz ensemble.

"There is more diversity here than anyplace else," Morgan said. "If you like diversity in the programming, it is not so much a challenge as an opportunity."

By making a commitment to new works by living, contemporary and local American artists and expanding traditional ideas of what classical music is, Morgan has capitalized on the city's pulse and increased both the size and scope of the symphony's audience.

"It is exciting to have an audience that really gets it," Duston said.

In addition to his work with the Oakland symphony, Morgan serves as artistic director of the Oakland Youth Orchestral Society and the Sacramento Monic Orchestra. He is also music director of the Festival Opera. Morgan holds a master's degree in music from Indiana University.

"Michael gives our teachers a feeling of accomplishment," said a teacher. "He is worth the money," said another. Reach Michal Lando at mlando@oaklandtimes.com or 339-4506.

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BERNAU, treasurer of the Butters Land Trust, says the group hopes to raise \$1 million.

Butters Canyon a sylvan hideaway

Mike Taugher
STAFF WRITER
Down Highway 13, and up on the ridge to the headwaters of Per-

MORE INFO

Information about the Butters Land Trust is available on its Web site, www.butterslandtrust.org, or contact Carol Bernau at 510-530-2746.

wanted to build on several lots in the canyon, and an organization formed to oppose those plans. It was called Friends of the Last Wild Canyon.

But in the summer of 2001, some of the neighbors decided to take to another level the drive to preserve the canyon in its natural state: They would buy it.

That's the mission of the Butters Land Trust, which now owns three lots. Several other lots have been purchased for preservation in related efforts.

But two more lots are up for sale at about \$200,000 each, and

Bernau said neighbors are concerned the steep lots will be developed. The trust is trying to raise money to buy them.

Bernau said she believes that of the 1,200 or so land trusts in the country, the Butters Canyon land trust might be the only one of its kind in the East Bay.

"Our major goal now that we've become established is to raise \$1 million," Bernau said. "We're looking for a benefactor. For \$1 million, we could accomplish our goals of preserving the canyon."

It would be enough, Bernau said, to buy the centrally located lots and that, she said, would be enough to keep houses from being built in the canyon.

Bernau said a self-guided nature trail could eventually be built in the canyon.

PIEDMONT HISTORY

■ **1820:** Don Luis Peralta owned 14,330 acres of land on the east side of San Francisco Bay. His Rancho San Antonio covered Piedmont, Berkeley and Oakland today. Gradually the Peralta holdings, like those of other early Californians, passed out of the hands of their original owners. The major portion of Jose Domingo's patrimony became the city of Berkeley while most of Vincente's land became the city of Oakland. A small portion of both these tracts is now known as the city of Piedmont.

■ **1852:** A newcomer to California was a man named Walter Blair. He bought 600 acres of land from the Peraltas for \$1.25 per acre. He built a hotel in Piedmont Park and a 75 acre amusement park in Moraga Canyon that was known as Blair Park.

■ **1877:** James Gamble, the president of Western Union Telegraph, bought 350 acres of land from Walter Blair. He built a big house for himself on Hillside Avenue and planned to sell the rest of the land to other people to build homes. The name of his business was the "Piedmont Land Company." Piedmont means "foot of the mountain" in Italian.

■ **1880s:** Piedmont had its first, and only, factory. At the top of Oakland Avenue there was a mulberry orchard with more than 6,000 trees and a two-story building that was the Ladies Silk Culture Society. More than 100 women worked spinning thread from the cocoons of silk worms that grew on the mulberry trees. The factory closed in 1895.

■ **1892:** The Piedmont Hotel burned down. Sparks from a chimney set the hotel roof on fire. Frank Havens bought the property and built a new restaurant and clubhouse. He also built an art gallery where the Piedmont Park tennis courts are now.

■ **1900s:** Jack London, Xavier Martinez, and George Sterling all lived in the hills of Piedmont.

■ **1906:** Earthquake in San Francisco on April 18. Thousands fled across the Bay to safety. Piedmont grew 10 times bigger in just one year.

■ **1907:** On January 7, Hugh Craig and James Ballentine filed papers with the state of California to incorporate a new city that was just 1.8 square miles in size. They called it Piedmont. Varney Gaskill became the first mayor, but he was only mayor for

three months. In May, Hugh Craig became the second mayor. He is considered the father of Piedmont.

■ **1908:** Piedmont City Hall built. Designed by Albert Farr, a famous architect. He designed many of the buildings in the civic center, including the Piedmont Community Church, which was built in 1916, and the Exedra arch. The city also built a bridge across Oakland Avenue to make travel easier.

■ **1911:** First school built on Bonita Avenue. Donated by Frank C. Havens.

■ **1913:** The Egbert Beach School built.

■ **1916:** Crocker Park was a gift to the city from Wallace and Mary Alexander.

■ **1921:** First high school built on a section of Piedmont Park.

■ **1920s:** Piedmont was known as the "City of Millionaires" because there were more millionaires per square mile than in any city in the United States.

■ **1922:** Became a charter city under the laws of the state of California on December 18. Adopted by the voters on February 27, 1923.

■ **1950:** The Veterans Building built.

■ **1970:** Population 10,917.

■ **1976:** The city needed a new middle school. The school district tore down the Leander Redmon estate on Magnolia Avenue and built the current middle school. The Redmons' teahouse, which had been in the back yard, was moved to Piedmont Park and placed in the exact spot where an earlier teahouse had been built by Frank Havens in 1890.

■ **1980:** Population 10,498.

■ **1980s and '90s:** Piedmont restored its existing parks and created three new ones — Linda Park, Dracena Park and Coaches Playfield. Over \$350,000 was spent to clean up Piedmont Park and build a new overlook behind the Community Hall. The city received a gift for Crocker Park, a large statue of a bear and her cubs designed by Benny Bufano. The newest park project is the Hampton Field Building, which will be used as a preschool and for recreation programs for Piedmont children. Piedmont Unified School District also did major building projects during the '90s at each school. Rebuilt Witter Field at Piedmont High School.

■ **2000:** Population 10,952.

SOURCE:

www.ci.piedmont.ca.us/html/history.htm

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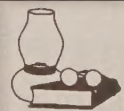
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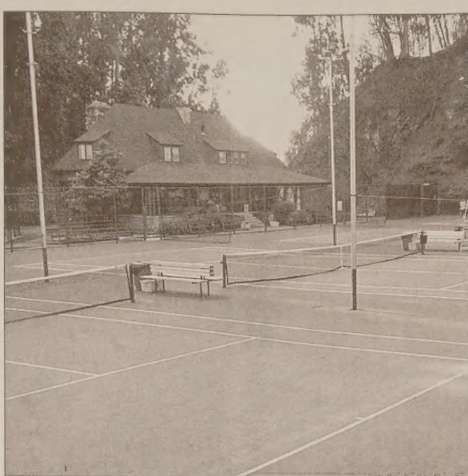
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Children's Fairyland: "If you
can borrow a little kid, it's just a
fabulous place to go," says
Crocker Highlands resident
Emmy Fern. "You can feel your
heartbeat slow down."

The renovated park, a pre-
cursor to Disneyland, has every-
thing from puppet shows to a gi-
ant dragon-shaped slide. There's



JOANNA JHANDATIMES

EUCALYPTUS TREES circle the five picturesque tennis courts of the Davies Tennis Stadium on the Oakland-Piedmont border.

You can get to the Stream Trail from Skyline Gate. Take the central path that goes straight down. In the early spring, cherry trees litter the path with blossoms.

Children's Fairyland: "If you can borrow a little kid, it's just a fabulous place to go," says Crocker Highlands resident Emmy Fern. "You can feel your heartbeat slow down."

The renovated park, a precursor to Disneyland, has everything from puppet shows to a giant dragon-shaped slide. There's

Alice in Wonderland's rabbit hole, card maze and hall of mirrors. Kids can step into the belly of a whale, climb on a tall pirate ship and jaunt around the park on a small train.

Toddlers especially enjoy the mini-amusement park, which sits on 10 acres next to Lake Merritt. Bigger kids get a kick out of using a special plastic key to play quaint tunes at various spots throughout Fairyland. The park hosts Halloween and other holiday happenings.

In the winter, Fairyland is

open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday through Sunday at 699 Bellevue Ave.

Network of staircases: Hills locals know to follow staircases they find wedged between houses in Trestle Glen, Crocker Highlands, Grand Avenue and other neighborhoods. "You find all kinds of parks, and you find all kinds of architecture," says Lakeshore resident Pamela Drake.

The stairs may not always lead somewhere, but then, that's not really the point of using them. It's about the unexpected. "You really have to walk in Oakland. You have to get out of your car," Drake explains.

A guide to the city's stairs can be found on Walk Oakland, a map and guide recently published by the city that's now on sale at hill-area bookstores, bike shops and other spots.

Lake Temescal: Lake Merritt is widely known as an Oakland landmark, but a little known slice of nature can be found at the intersection of highways 13 and 24.

Locals know to take the kids to Lake Temescal in the summer for some old-fashioned lake swimming. Or if you like to fish, try to take home some of the lake's rainbow trout, largemouth bass, red-eared sunfish, blue gill or catfish.

You'll need a state fishing license and a daily park fishing permit (\$4) to try your luck. The swimming season runs from the spring through the fall, with life guards on duty at posted times. The lake is located at 6500 Broadway.

East Bay National Skyline Trail: This 31-mile long trail links Richmond to Castro Valley as it winds its way through Sibley Volcanic Regional Preserve, Huckleberry Botanic Regional Preserve, Redwood Regional Park and Anthony Chabot Regional Park.

Hikers and horseback riders have access to the entire trail, while bikers are restricted to parts of the trail that are fire roads and service roads.

The panoramic views of the entire Bay Area will stop you cold in your tracks, but keep walking to enjoy the grassy fields, redwood groves and the many lakes and streams scattered along the trail.

Piedmont dog parks: A dog-friendly town, Piedmont boasts several areas where pets can roam around without a leash, as long as the owners have secured a special permit from the police department.

Locations designated as off-leash areas for dogs include: Blair Park on Moraga Avenue; Piedmont Park's Bushy Dell Creek area, which runs from the back of Community Hall to the Piedmont school district property line; the upper paths in Dracena Park, from Dracena Avenue to Artuna Avenue; and Linda Park's fenced-in area.

All types of breeds can be found at the dog parks, ranging from small, lively, speedy Jack Russell terriers to large, laid-back, lumbering Bernese mountain dogs.

The off-leash areas are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. weekdays,

and from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on weekends. To use the areas, dog owners must have a license issued by their city of residence and a valid off-leash license from the city of Piedmont attached to the collar.

Dogs less than 4 months of age and female dogs in season are prohibited. Other rules applying to the off-leash areas are posted at each site.

To obtain an off-leash license, call the Piedmont Police Department at 510-420-3000.

Heinold's First and Last Chance Saloon: While not technically in the Oakland hills, Heinold's is simply too hip and historic to be ignored.

Located in the same spot where Jack London and a host of scurrious seafaring scoundrels often came for a bit of rum, this cozy one-room bar has more character than all the watering holes in San Francisco's Mission district put together.

The saloon has operated continuously since 1883, the longest streak for any bar in Oakland. The 1906 San Francisco earthquake left the floor and bar with a sharp slope, a condition you might find yourself in if you try to keep up with the bar's regulars.

The bar is at the foot of Webster Street in the heart of Jack London Square.

Matthew Leising can be reached at 510-339-4061 or mleising@cttimes.com. Lisa Coffey-Mahoney contributed to this article.

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THE STAFF at Italian Colors keeps close tabs on customers' preferences: The kitchen staff can often look at an order and tell who's eating in the dining room.

Italian Colors always puts its customers first

By John Simerman
TIMES STAFF WRITER

Don't let the soothing jazz guitar or the contemporary, yellow-ochre decor fool you.

Italian Colors Ristorante isn't going for chichi.

On the contrary, the proprietors of this 10-year-old restaurant above Mountain Boulevard know where their bread is buttered: along the nooks and crannies of this hillside neighborhood.

Here, nestled in a bedroom community of older residents, settled-down professionals and a newer influx of young families, the restaurant caters to the well-set routines of repeat customers. And their children.

Day and night, white paper covers dark vinyl tablecloths with a glass of colored crayons at the ready. A simple, kid-savvy children's menu includes essentials such as "plain pasta with butter."

It turns out that 80 percent of the restaurant's customers return at least five times a month, said owner Steve Montgomery, who has been working in Montclair restaurants for more than 20 years.

"Thing is, kids have parents, and in this area, parents have disposable income," he said. "We're

"We're not by the water, and Montclair doesn't have enough to draw people out at night. We have to make it on repeat business. We have to go out of our way to give our regulars what they want."

— owner Steve Montgomery

not by the water, and Montclair doesn't have enough to draw people out at night. We have to make it on repeat business. We have to go out of our way to give our regulars what they want."

That is particularly true with a restaurant situated in a mini-mall, in the home of a former deli, a few blocks from Montclair Village.

The long-tenured waitstaff keeps close tabs on customers' preferred drinks, their favorite booths, their waitress of choice and their birthdays.

"Most of these people I know," said waitress Gabrielle Mitchell, scanning the dining room one recent Friday night. "I know he'll have a Grey Goose up with a twist, and she'll have a Harp."

The mainstay menu is a well-honed balance of Italian staples and hearty basics: varieties of pasta and pizza, roasted chicken, spinach lasagna, Caesar and chicken salads, steamed clams.

Many customers order the same meal, every time. The kitchen staff can often look at an order and tell who's eating.

When the owners make changes, they do it gently, carefully, fearing rebellion. It borders on paranoia, admitted Montgomery. But it's also a recipe that has helped the restaurant weather a tough economy, he said.

Executive chef Alan Carlson said he wouldn't mind getting a little more creative, maybe changing up a regular menu item now and again.

He knows better. Montclairians just won't have it.

Like when he tried to change the spaghetti sauce, or when he

OAKLAND HILLS DINING

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■ **Purple Plum**, 4228 Park Blvd., 510-336-0990. Soul kitchen and comfort food. Fried chicken, chops, barbecue, vegetable risotto, salmon cakes, corn bread.

■ **Compadres**, 4239 Park Blvd., 510-482-3663. Mexican bar and grill. Fish, steak and chicken tacos, fajitas, salads, mole. Assorted margaritas.

■ **Il Porcellino**, 6111 La Salle Ave., 510-339-2149. Classic northern Italian cuisine.

■ **Pagarung Thai Cuisine**, 6200 Antioch Court, 510-339-0566.

■ **Flipper's Gourmet Burgers**, 2060 Mountain Blvd., 510-339-2082.

■ **Gary's Grill & Bar**, 6118 Medau Place, 510-482-8282. Seafood, pasta, steak, salad.

briefly set aside the labor-intensive "Goosey Warm Chocolate Cake," which takes 20 minutes to prepare.

"I had a couple women who were just screaming," said Carlson. "I didn't expect it to be quite that 'neighborhood.'"

Carlson, formerly of Zza's on Oakland's Grand Avenue, limits his creative urges to nightly dinner specials.

On a recent Friday night, they included an appetizer of sea scallops with fried shrimp cappelletti;

Dungeness crab and asparagus-stuffed petrale sole; a juicy rib-eye with blue cheese butter and a red wine demiglace; and a blackberry-papaya tart for dessert.

With nightly guitar and a full bar, Italian Colors may adopt a bit more of an upscale tone than most neighborhood restaurants. But then, so does Montclair, noted Carlson.

"Montclairians, though they're down-home folk, they're used to nicer surroundings."

Bars

FROM PAGE 21

Bring a business card for a stapler to add thousands that time it feels like it's been there ever," says regular. "It feels like the time parents used to take summer vacations."

The bar is small, you can actually sit at a piano in one of the music doesn't keep there's enough space the walls for an evening of gazing.

Opinions, even staff, vary as to the decor. But the bar is it's a nice and some place, even if you are the first time.

Another spot on King's X, at 4401 P. A haven for Raiders also hosts some of the best of the area.

Bartender Curtis that the bar receives from other areas there's a dispute a question.

"It's a bar bar," Howard pours with hand, and the jukebox wide range of good Frank Sinatra to S. tender jokes.

Last but certainly the commercial strip Avenue boasts great bars, including Irish Pub, at 5352 O.

This joint has a large hearth that comes patrons. It's a traditional Irish music night, which is hockey until you realize, in true Irish drinking just as hard body else.

The bumper-pool attraction for anyone how this odd game is daily countdown to Day, displayed on the other nice touch.

As to the thing about Rome ... the Guinness Nally's is poured well-enough to hold til your flight to D.

McNally's dates but has become within the last 15 years bartender Alex Hen.

Henry advises McNally's Irish Coffee (solini), a shot of liqueur like a cake brownie of coffee and cream.

Though situated Oakland's costliest hoods, McNally's is stuffy or pretentious place to end your evening the fire burn down ing with friends.

Matthew Leising can be reached at 510-339- mleising@ccimes.com.

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